



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary, 1908.

40th Year of Publication.

THE preparation of this work is progressing, in order that the delivery of copies to our subscribers abroad by Christmas may be ensured. Advertisers who wish to avail themselves of the opportunity of making their announcements in the *DIARY* should make sure of getting space by addressing the publisher of *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY*, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. The *DIARY* is presented free to all subscribers to *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, and being in daily use by thousands of our readers throughout the year is the most esteemed and valuable advertising-medium of the kind in the world. Besides valuable and novel reference and practical information, the 1908 *DIARY* will contain a *BUYERS' GUIDE* to the agents for and makers of chemicals, medicines, and druggists' goods of all kinds. To secure entries therein it is necessary to advertise the goods in the *DIARY*.

Summary.

The subjoined paragraphs give the gist of the more important matters in this issue, with the object of showing at a glance what has happened during the week. See also "Contents" in the first column.

MR. JESSE BOOT replies to the remarks of the President of the Pharmaceutical Society in a letter printed in our correspondence section. In the course of it Mr. Boot gives particulars of some of the purchases from pharmaceutical councillors, and adds: "The defendant to our summons was a gentleman who has never had any delicate scruples about attacking our position in the trade—

R. A. Robinson he
Thinks all are 'trade pirates'
Who work for J. B."

The letter is printed on p. 594.

A STATEMENT is made in regard to the business of Henry Squire, Ltd., on p. 570.

THE MINOR EXAMINATION only was held in Edinburgh and London this month. We print the pass-lists on p. 575.

THE FOREIGN OFFICE informs us that the English translation of the Japanese Pharmacopoeia was published on October 3 (p. 594).

Two "doctors" who keep open shop in the South West of London have been fined under the Pharmacy Act for selling poisons (p. 569).

BAILIE CLARK, of Edinburgh, died on Wednesday evening. He was the principal of Messrs. Raimes, Clark & Co., wholesale druggists (p. 571).

A FRED REYNOLDS MEMORIAL is proposed, and we invite those who have enjoyed his cartoons in the *C. & D.* to contribute (p. 562 and p. 580).

PRESCRIPTIONS which he wrote for from 2 lb. to 5 lb. of opium have brought a Cape doctor before the Medical Council on a charge of infamous conduct (p. 567).

"PROFESSOR MELDOLA'S IDEAS on pharmacy would have been happy and accurate in the days when Rhazes taught and Avicenna wrote." Thus "Xrayser" (p. 577).

MR. ALEXANDER BOTTLE, of Dover, died on Friday of last week. His portrait is given on p. 571, and an appreciation of him as the father of British pharmacy on p. 578.

"How are the mighty fallen!" Sir William Lyne has stopped the sale of Mr. Octavius Beale's report on patent medicines, etc. It seemed to be shocking the Australian public (p. 566).

PROPRIETORS OF PROPRIETARY ARTICLES discussed very fully Australian and other proposals about their goods at the London Chamber of Commerce last week, and decided upon a course of action. Our report of the proceedings begins on p. 592.

THE EXPORT TRADE of the United Kingdom for the first nine months of 1907 is 76,885,596*l.* better in value than in the corresponding period of 1905, and 41,226,919*l.* more than in the 1906 period. Chemicals and medicines share in the improvement (p. 580).

MR. J. E. BRUNKER, M.A., in his report as pharmacy advisor to the Irish Local Government Board, gives interesting particulars in regard to the medicines supplied to dispensaries and workhouses in 1906, including remarks on qualities and the firms who supplied the goods (p. 579).

DR. J. A. WALSH presided at the annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, and delivered an encouraging address. Mr. J. H. Bowden is the only new councillor. It is understood that Mr. John Smith is to succeed Dr. Walsh in the presidency. A full report of the proceedings and portraits of Mr. Bowden and the gold medallist are given on p. 572.

THE WINTER SESSION of chemists' associations is now fairly on the move, but so far little of general interest has been discussed. The Pharmaceutical Council's organisation scheme is commended as a rule, but here and there strong objections are made to the secrecy involved—*e.g.*, at Halifax and Huddersfield. Mr. Broadhead, in facetious vein, calls it "diplomacy," and this gives our ecloguist his opportunity (p. 582).

SEVERAL important price-alterations are announced in our Trade Report. They include advances in quiesilver, industrial and methylated spirit and finish, methylated ethers and cream of tartar. Tartaric acid is strong and firmer. Copper sulphate, manna, Japanese peppermint oil, and cinchona are easier. Chinese crude and Japanese refined camphor are lower. Mercurials will be advanced on October 11. Rumours of a new convention among quinine makers are prevalent (p. 588).

English News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

Wilfred B. Christopherson, son of Mr. Fred Christopherson, pharmaceutical chemist, Swaffham, has gained an entrance exhibition for St. Bartholomew's Hospital, value 100l.

At the sitting of the London County Council on Tuesday it was agreed to allow Mr. A. Oldcorn, chemist, to retain three wood and glass show-cases in front of No. 1 Piccadilly Circus for the period of twelve months.

The *post-mortem* on Mr. Bonaventura Costellotte, who was supposed to have died from nicotine-poisoning through excessive smoking of cigars (*C. & D.*, October 5, p. 528), showed that there was no trace of nicotine-poisoning.

Burnley chemists had hoped to secure an early-closing order by the recent general canvass, and the failure which attended that venture led to a lively discussion at the Burnley Town Council on October 3. There it was alleged that the ballot had not been properly carried out, difficulties having arisen in the classification of chemists, etc. There was a demand that the matter should be again referred to committee for further consideration, and a motion to this effect was carried.

Wellcome-Remington Prizes.

Mr. A. Robinson, senior apprentice with Mr. Clement Bellamy, Ph.C., 118 High Street, Oxford, has gained the copy of Remington's "Pharmacy" offered for competition by Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. through the Oxford Chemists' Association.

The Editor of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* has reported upon the essays on opium submitted by apprentices and assistants of members of the Derby Chemists' Association for the copy of Remington's "Pharmacy," and has given first place to "De Quincey," highly commending the essays by "Alkaloid" and "Experientia Docet." There were nine entries, and we are informed that "De Quincey" is Mr. C. D. Frearson, apprentice to Mr. John A. Cope, Ph.C., 3 Market Place, Derby.

Memorial of the late Mr. Fred Reynolds.

A meeting of friends of the late Mr. Fred Reynolds, of Leeds and Ilkley, was held at the Hôtel Métropole, Leeds, on Tuesday, October 8. Dr. W. M. Gabriel, of Keighley, was voted to the chair. After hearing a statement as to various alternative schemes suggested as a memorial to Mr. Reynolds, the meeting passed unanimously resolutions in favour of establishing a fitting permanent memorial, and appointed a strong working committee to raise a fund and to carry out a definite scheme, the idea being to arrange a distinctive form of memorial in association with the Children's Summer Holiday Movement in Leeds, whereby an increasing number of poor slum-children may be benefited every year. This means that if a sufficient fund is raised (as seems probable, from the large number of promises of support already received) it will be possible to build a "Fred Reynolds Memorial Wing" at one of the existing holiday homes at a quiet seaside or country spot, and provide for a larger number of children yearly. The recommendation to the committee embodies this as an instruction, according as funds and arrangements permit, the beneficent provision being, of course, dependent for its extent on the amount of money available. In their first resolution the meeting recorded their deep and abiding sense of the loss sustained by Mr. Reynolds's untimely decease, and made grateful mention of the charity of his disposition, the goodness of his nature, and the cheery influence of his optimism and kindly humour. The following were appointed members of the Executive Committee:

Mr. J. H. Beacock, Leeds; Mr. Herbert Denny, Bradford; Alderman J. Rawlinson Ford, J.P., Leeds; Dr. W. M. Gabriel, Keighley; Mr. William Harvey, Leeds; Mr. J. H. Milner, Leeds; Mr. Westley Newton, Ulleskelf; Mr. Douglas Russell, Ilkley; Mr. Walter Smith, Leeds; Mr. F. B. Teale, Leeds; Mr. Fred White, Leeds; Mr. Stanley Williamson, Leeds. Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. W. Fowler, Lloyds Bank, Leeds. Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. H. Scott, "The Yorkshire Post," Leeds.

Mr. J. W. Fowler, Lloyds Bank, Leeds, has consented to receive contributions to the fund, and Mr. Scott, the Hon. Secretary, will be pleased to answer inquiries and forward circular relating to the memorial to any who desire further particulars in the course of a few days.

Drug-stores Association of Great Britain.

A meeting of the Council of this Association was held at Cowborough's Restaurant, Leeds, on October 2. A draft report was submitted by the Secretary showing the financial position, which was considered satisfactory. The President submitted several new rules, which were discussed, and will be brought up at the annual meeting to be held at the Mitre Hotel, Manchester, on Wednesday, October 30, at 2.30 P.M.

A Joint Deputation

waited on Monday on the Hull Public Libraries Committee of the Corporation from the Hull and District Chemists' Association and the Hull Chemists' Buying Association to complain that the "Pharmaceutical Journal" and *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* were accessible in the magazine-room to the general public, who could thus read trade-recipes and become acquainted with trade-prices. Mr. Richardson (President) and Mr. Staning (Hon. Secretary) represented the Hull and District Chemists' Association, and Mr. J. Tebb the Buying Association. Mr. Richardson spoke first, pointing out that the journals were intended for trade circulation only. Mr. Staning and Mr. Tebb followed, and it was explained by the librarian that the "Pharmaceutical Journal" was subscribed for and *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* was presented locally. Mr. Staning said the Association would be quite satisfied if the papers were filed and given out on request at the counter, and not placed in the public room for indiscriminate reading. The Chairman (Sir James Reckitt) promised that the matter should be gone into fully at the next meeting of the full committee.

[We were not aware that *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* could be seen in the Hull Library, for it is not obtained direct from us. We have many applications from public libraries, news-agents, and booksellers for the regular supply of the *C. & D.* on payment, but such subscriptions are always refused, as our circulation is confined strictly to persons and firms connected with the trade. We observe that the Hull librarian explained that the *C. & D.* is "presented locally." We cannot, of course, control the destiny of numbers of the *C. & D.* obtained in a regular manner, but we should think that subscribers would realise that a trade journal of the character of the *C. & D.* is intended solely for themselves and not for the public.—EDITOR *C. & D.*]

Contracts.

Further contracts have been ratified as under:

Bedford Guardians.—Messrs. Anthony & Son, chemists, for drugs for six months; Mr. A. Wyatt, 31 Tavistock Street, Bedford, to be chemist for a similar period.

Boston Guardians.—Messrs. Gilliatt, Ltd., for Howards' quinine in 1-oz. bottles at 1s. 2d. per oz., and for soft soap at 7s. 6d. per 60-lb. keg.

Camberwell Guardians.—Messrs. P. B. Cow & Co. for waterproof sheeting; Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co. for trusses.

Chelmsford Joint Hospital.—Mr. T. L. Nicholls, chemist and druggist, for drugs, etc.

Chelsea Hospital for Women.—Idris & Co., Ltd., for aerated waters; S. Maw, Son & Sons for surgical dressings.

Hemsworth Rural District Council.—Mr. G. Hodgson, for drugs and disinfectants for the hospital.

Hereford City Council.—Mr. E. Guy, chemist and druggist, for drugs, etc., for the ensuing half-year.

Kendal Guardians.—Mr. George Vogt, chemist and druggist, for drugs and druggists' sundries.

Lancaster Guardians.—Mr. W. Arkle, chemist and druggist, for drugs, etc., for six months.

Ludlow Guardians.—Mr. George Woodhouse, chemist and druggist, for cod-liver oil (6d. per lb.), cod-liver oil emulsion (6d. per lb.), and quinine (1s. 2d. per oz.); Mr. W. J. Brown, pharmaceutical chemist, for linseed (2s. 3d. per 12 lb.).

St. Pancras Guardians.—Messrs. Idris & Co., Ltd., to supply syphons of lemonade and soda-water at 1s. 6d. per doz.

Shoreditch Guardians.—E. Cook & Co., Ltd., Bow, E., for soap.

West Ham Guardians.—Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., W. H. Bailey & Son, Ltd., Mr. A. Berliner, Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons, and Messrs. B. Pratt & Co., for surgical dressings; Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., the Hospital and General Contracts Co., and Messrs. Maw, Son & Sons, for surgical appliances; Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co. for drugs and surgical instruments.

Wetherby Guardians.—Mr. John Jackson, pharmaceutical chemist, for drugs for six months.

Wolverhampton Guardians.—Messrs. Southall Bros. & Barclay, Ltd., Birmingham, for drugs for the workhouse infirmary (43*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*), and for the dispensary (22*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.*). The tenders for surgical dressings are under consideration.

Manchester Notes.

At a recent meeting of the Stretford Education Committee Mr. F. W. Bates stated that Stretford is now educating all its children in its own elementary schools—a state of affairs which must be a source of satisfaction to the able Chairman of the Committee. Mr. Bates is to open a discussion on "Trade Matters" at the November meeting of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.

"Medicine and the State" formed the subject of the opening address of the Session at the Medical School by Mr. C. S. Tomes, F.R.S., in the course of which he said that speedy improvement in medical legislation seems very remote. Such bills are not showy enough to appeal to Governments in power, and he looked to secondary education to educate the people in matters scientific as the first thing to be done before any real progress can be made.

The following verses represent the first and last from a poetical effusion addressed to "2nd M.B.s" in the "Manchester Medical Students' Gazette," and contain a pun on the name of the lecturer in pharmacy:

Come, students, be merry! Cast care far away!
'Tis the time not for mourning or sorrow,
'Cause the Doses and Mixtures you've swatted to-day
Are all gone from your noddles to-morrow.
If Mat. Med. is to you an untractable "baste,"
You've a remedy under your nose;
For don't you make pills of a *grier*-able taste?
And you know what's the poisonous dose!

A correspondent writing to the "Manchester Guardian" regarding an advertisement of the Chorlton Board of Guardians for a senior medical officer at 127*l.* per annum, states that of forty-four posts offered in this week's "British Medical Journal" for doctors, the average rate of remuneration is 90*l.*, with board and lodging, and suggests that it would be better to make a young man a bricklayer than to spend 1,000*l.* on his education simply to enable him to earn 90*l.* per annum.

Midland Notes.

A casual vacancy on Aston Manor Town Council has been filled by the unopposed return of Mr. Richard Hollick, chemist and druggist, Boldmere Road, Wylde Green.

Gunpowder as an internal remedy, in doses of one teaspoonful, is occasionally resorted to by the inhabitants of the Black Country as an all-round remedy for flesh's ills.

The rush for change is still strong. Yet two more pharmacists have forsaken its ranks and joined those of dentistry, taking medicine on the way—as an extra side-line, it is surmised.

Messrs. Edward George and Henry J. Cadbury have presented to Birmingham thirty-four acres of pleasure grounds situated at Rednal, Lecky Hills, to be used in perpetuity as recreation grounds.

Mr. Richard Hollick, dispensing chemist, Wylde Green, has been nominated to fill the vacancy in the Villa Ward of Aston Town Council occasioned by the election of Councillor H. Guest as an alderman.

Dr. Wilson, of Birmingham, says medical clubs are a dead failure—a salve, not a remedy. He suggests local stations for the examination of patients, where medicine can be received. Would the chemist be able to supply the

station, or would it have to be on a greater scale, like hospitals or dispensaries?

As chemists often have canine and feline pets to doctor, it is worth while to note that should they be bitten during the interview the owner is liable to pay damages by way of compensation. So Judge Smith, of the Wolverhampton County Court, decided on Friday last, when he awarded Mr. Bates, veterinary surgeon, 6*l.* and costs from Mr. Cronin, who travels the country with a number of performing dogs.

The East London Coroner held an inquest on October 5 at Poplar on a child who died from bronchitis. The mother had put a brown paper and tallow plaster on the chest, which the doctor remarked was absolutely useless. May it be said that is contrary to experience in Birmingham?—for it is held to be an infallible remedy for colds and chest troubles, and chemists are often asked to explain how to make the poultice.

Notts Notes.

The Nottingham and Notts Pharmaceutical Association begin the winter session in the last week of this month. The programme, though not yet complete, has some items of interest. Such subjects as the "Poison Laws," "Advertising," and other trade-matters are to be brought up. In place of the annual dinner a "social supper" is contemplated.

Now that the cricket season is over chemists are recruiting the Bulwell Golf Club, and several are now trying their hand at the "royal and antient" game. Already Mr. W. Meakin has done well on his success in the Thursday monthly meeting, coming out, as he did, with flying colours—namely, with a net score of 69. His gross score would have secured him the first position had it been a scratch match, so even in having a handicap of 27 his gross score was 96, the next gross score being 97, thus showing that the chemists are going to hold their own in the general club.

A disastrous fire occurred on October 7 at the premises of Mr. William Thomson, chemist and druggist, in Derby Road, Nottingham, when the whole shop was completely gutted. Mr. Thomson, with his wife and family, were in Scotland on holiday, the only persons on the premises being Mr. Robert Lees, dispenser, Mr. Ernest Bradbury, assistant, and a servant. The servant escaped down the back stairs, but Bradbury and Lees were unable to get down that way. Lees jumped from the third storey before the life-saving sheet was ready, and, turning a somersault, landed in the street. He is in hospital with a crushed chest and severe injuries to the face. Bradbury also jumped too soon, and he is suffering from concussion of the brain and a fractured pelvis. At the time of writing both are in a very critical condition. The cause of the outbreak is unknown.

Deaths under Anæsthetics.

Dr. F. J. Waldo, Coroner for the City and Southwark, inquired on October 7 into the death of Mrs. Minnie Colsten Morgan, of Walworth, who died in Guy's Hospital while under chloroform for the purpose of an operation for goitre. The Coroner remarked that that was the thirty-sixth inquest he had held in six and a half years respecting patients who had died when under the influence of anæsthetics at Guy's Hospital. Dr. K. H. Digby, who said he had been resident house-surgeon at Guy's since October 1, deposed to administering the chloroform to deceased. He had administered anæsthetics in ninety-eight cases, and that was his first fatal case. In reply to Dr. Waldo, witness said he gave ether, and A.C.E. mixture, as well as chloroform, in many cases. There were eight anæsthetists at Guy's, but none of them resided there; and in most cases the anæsthetic was administered by the house-surgeon. The Coroner: I understand at Guy's Hospital you give what is known as acetone chloroform? Yes, it is pure chloroform. The Coroner pointed out that there was another kind of chloroform made from rectified spirit, but it was double the price because of the duty on rectified spirit. Dr. G. W. Nicholson, of Guy's, who made a *post-mortem*, said death was due to heart failure when under the influence of chloroform. Witness, in reply to the Coroner, said he preferred giving chloroform rather than ether. The Coroner said doctors told him that in many thousands of cases it did not matter whether chloroform

or ether was given, so long as it was administered by an experienced man, but in the hands of an inexperienced man chloroform was more dangerous than ether. The inquiry was then adjourned for the attendance of the surgeon who was performing the operation.

On October 6 Mr. Henslowe Wellington held an inquest at Lambeth on the body of Robert McDonald (47), who died in St. Thomas's Hospital after undergoing an operation. Dr. Nightingale, house-surgeon at St. Thomas's Hospital, said the operation was a difficult one, and ether was the anæsthetic used. It was successfully completed, but later hemorrhage started from the surgical wounds, and though all that was possible was done the hemorrhage continued. It was decided that nothing more could be done for him without an anæsthetic, and the deceased was taken to the operation theatre again. Chloroform was administered, and under its influence deceased stopped bleeding. Artificial respiration was resorted to, and Mr. Adams, one of the surgeons, endeavoured to massage the heart, but it was found to be flaccid. Dr. Trevor said that death was due to heart failure owing to loss of blood following on the operation, and the jury returned a verdict accordingly.

Irish News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Personal.

Dr. James S. Ashe, M.P.S.I., Professor Materia Medica, Ph.S.I., has been elected a Fellow and member of the Council, Royal Academy of Medicine, Ireland.

Mr. Robert Barklie, Public Analyst of Belfast and various Ulster counties, was the recipient of many congratulations on October 7 on attaining his seventieth birthday.

Mr. Paul Kelly, who has been with Mr. J. J. McHugh, the Medical Hall, Athy, for some time, has emigrated to Australia, where he has an uncle in the medical profession. Mr. Kelly is a native of co. Carlow.

Analysing Old Samples.

The analyst to the Delvin Union having reported some drugs as deficient in alcohol, the L.G.B. have written to the Guardians that the contractors could not be held responsible, as the samples were not forwarded for examination until long after delivery. Messrs. Sumner & Co. (Liverpool), the contractors, also wrote to the Guardians attributing the defect complained of to the fact that the drugs were allowed to remain too long in the dispensary before being submitted to the analyst.

The New Councillor.

Mr. Joseph Henry Bowden, M.P.S.I., who has succeeded Mr. H. S. Misstear on the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, was born in Exeter, Devon, but he has been in Dublin since he was two years old. He served his apprenticeship with the late Mr. R. J. Downes, a past President of the Pharmaceutical Society, and remained with Mr. Downes at Upper Baggot Street until Mr. Downes's death in 1901. Mr. Bowden managed the business (carried on under the old style of "Brooks & Co.") for some months, ultimately taking it over. It is a good-class business with an excellent dispensing connection, Lower Baggot Street being adjacent to Merrion Square, the Harley Street of Dublin. The "Fitzwilliam Pharmacy," as it is called, is a smart, well-arranged shop, and Mr. Bowden, with the energy and ambition of youth, already contemplates extensive schemes of reconstruction. A casual conversation with the new Councillor makes it evident that he has all the knowledge of pharmacy and pharmaceutical affairs to make his presence at the Council table valuable to his colleagues and to his pharmaceutical confrères in Ireland. We print Mr. Bowden's portrait on page 572.

The L.G.B. Report.

The annual report of the Local Government Board for Ireland for the year ended March 31, 1907, has just been issued. It contains a good deal of information on medical relief in Ireland. We note, for instance, that throughout Ireland there are 740 dispensary districts, employing 807 medical officers, but only 48 dispensers. The salaries of the dispensers, including temporary services, came to

2,936l. 10s., or an average of a little over 61l. per annum. As three receive only 15l. each per annum, and in five other cases where dispensers are authorised no payment is made, the average is not so low as it looks. The superannuation list contains the names of four dispensers who have retired on pensions through ill-health, the amounts received being from 24l. to 75l. per annum; one medical man who combined the position of dispenser receives a pension of 6l. for his services in that capacity. The report of the advising pharmacist to the Board (Mr. J. E. Brunker) is dealt with on p. 579.

The Irish International Exhibition.

The fine spell of summer weather during the past month has given an increased fillip to the Exhibition. The attendance has been greater than at any period almost since the opening, and there is a desire expressed in many quarters to keep the Exhibition open beyond November 4, which had been decided upon as the latest closing date. Some correspondents in the local press suggest that the Exhibition be continued until Christmas in order to recoup exhibitors for the loss caused by the cold and wet summer. This proposition is generally regarded as hardly feasible, however, and the fine buildings at Ballsbridge will probably have disappeared before then. One of the most popular, and certainly one of the smartest, shows is that of Messrs. D. Brown & Son, Ltd., of Donaghmore, Co. Tyrone. The visitor, casually and suspectingly, walks into an old Irish cottage, transplanted as it were from Donaghmore, where St. Patrick founded a church and is said to have erected an old cross, which is still standing. He (or she) watches the old Irishwoman stirring her peat fire, and becomes interested in the equipments of the kitchen and the adjacent bedroom. Then he (or she) walks into the next compartment and finds the manufacture of McClinton's soap in full swing. The only industry in the village is the manufacture of soap, and it is carried on to-day in the same way as it was a hundred years ago. Passing through the factory, where men and girls are busily engaged, the visitor inspects the pig in the sty in the yard, but before emerging into the grounds of the Exhibition again it is necessary to pass through another cottage, where McClinton's specialties—toilet soap, Hibernia shaving-soap, and shaving-cream are temptingly displayed. Purchasers on the spot, male and female, are abundant, and the object-lesson is one that no visitor is likely to forget. We have already mentioned (*C. & D.*, July 6, p. 12) the various exhibitors connected with the drug trade, but visitors during the present month should not miss the neat show of chemical fertilisers and allied products made by Messrs. Paul & Vincent.

Scotch News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Aberdeen and the North.

At a meeting of the Tophins Curling Club held last week Mr. J. R. McHattie, chemist, was re-elected secretary and treasurer.

Mr. A. L. Wood, chemist, Stonehaven, has gained the "blue riband" of the Stonehaven golf course—the Course Challenge Cup and Medal.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie has given 10,000l. towards the funds of the Aberdeen Technical College. The Aberdeen County Council has agreed to give 3,000l. to the same object.

Among the buildings shortly to be demolished for city improvements are the premises in College Street occupied by Messrs. Souter & Shepherd, wholesale druggists, who are retiring from business.

In the pairs tournament of the Inverurie Bowling Club the men of medicine distinguished themselves. Mr. W. S. Taylor, chemist, and his partner took first place; and Mr. James F. Ironside, chemist, with Dr. Forbes as his partner, second.

Mr. James Geddes, chemist, late of Aberchirder, Banffshire, who has been spending a holiday in his native country, sailed from Southampton last Saturday for Cape Town, where he has a pharmacy. Mr. Geddes at one time managed a business in Aberdeen.

In agreeing to the suggestion of the Local Committee of the British Pharmaceutical Conference that the meeting be held in September instead of earlier in the year, as is usual, the Executive Committee has acted wisely. For the past few years at least Aberdeen has experienced exceptionally fine weather in September. The Local Committee no doubt had that in their minds when they made the suggestion.

Edinburgh Chemists' Golf Club.

The members of this club brought their season's card to a close on Wednesday, October 2, when, by the courtesy of the Insurance and Banking Golf Club, a match between teams representing the Captain and Hon. Secretary was played over their course at Duddingstone. A most enjoyable game ended in favour of the Captain's team by four matches.

Midlothian.

A slight fire was caused on Sunday night in a yard in St. Leonard's Street, Edinburgh, by the rain falling on a quantity of lime-shell—a somewhat rare occurrence.

Mr. McNab, chemist and druggist, Gorebridge, has a fine window display of pictorial postcards, which are described fittingly as "Local Beauty Spots." In the other window his embrocation is "limericked" thus:

A man coming up from the station

Showed signs of great agitation;

It was a bad sprain,

That caused him such pain,

But it fled from "McNab's Embrocation."

It is an open secret in Edinburgh that the thistles received by the Pharmaceutical Councillors last week were sent by Dr. George Coull, a member of the Scotch Board of Examiners, who is fond of his joke. [Dr. Coull has confessed to it. See page 594.—EDITOR.]

Glasgow and the West.

Mr. James Walker, chemist and druggist, Paisley, is opening a branch business shortly in Broomland Street, in the same district.

An explosion of naphtha vapour occurred at the premises of Messrs. John Guy & Co., oil and chemical manufacturers, Carntyne, near Glasgow, and two men were severely burned.

Mr. Thomas P. Barrie, Ph.C., and Mr. Hugh Paterson, chemist and druggist, have passed in botany and physics of the First Professional examination for M.B., Ch.B.

The Argyll Oil Mill and Chemical Works, 125 Mansion Street, Possilpark, Glasgow, have been sold by Mrs. Agnes Kirkpatrick to Mr. Spencer B. Cortis Stanford and Mr. Alexander Wylie, jun.

Messrs. Lindsay, Scott & Co., Ltd., 3 Cadogan Street, Glasgow, have disposed of the pharmaceutical part of their business to Messrs. George Stirling & Co., of whom the principal is Mr. George Stirling, chemist, formerly of Dunoon. Messrs. Lindsay, Scott & Co. are removing their bleaching-powder business to Liverpool.

Welsh News.

Early Closing.

At a meeting of the Wrexham Chemists' Association on October 3, Mr. C. G. Caldecott presiding, it was unanimously agreed that the chemists of Wrexham on and after October 1 close their respective shops at 8 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays, at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, at 1 p.m. on Fridays, opening at 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. for evening duty and from 8 to 9 p.m. on Sunday evenings.

Increase the Fee.

Mr. Jabez A. Jones, chemist and druggist, one of Cardiff's City Councillors, evidently does not believe in the municipalisation of the boating on one of the public lakes. At a recent meeting the Parks Superintendent recommended that the Corporation, instead of continuing to allow boatmen to ply for hire on the lake at a rental of 1*l.* 1*s.* a year, should municipalise the boating, predicting that if they did that they would make an additional profit of 100*l.* a year. Mr. Jones proposed that instead they should increase the rental to 2*l.* 2*s.* per annum, and this was carried.

French News.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

BUSINESS CHANGE.—Mr. Gabriel Fermé, exporter of chemical and pharmaceutical products, etc., has removed his offices and warehouses to more commodious premises at 55 Boulevard de Strasbourg, Paris.

"LE CURIE DE L'ANGLETERRE" is the title which "Le Matin" bestows on Sir William Ramsay, *à propos* of a contribution to that journal by Sir William which describes the latest researches on radium. The article is illustrated by the portrait of the *savant* which appeared in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, July 30, 1904.

THE CITY'S GUESTS.—Among the members of the Paris Municipal Council who have been the guests of the Corporation of London this week are M. Houdé, a pharmacist, and several medical men. One of the latter, Dr. Navarre, was President of the Council some years ago, the Vice-President at the same time being M. Astier, the pharmacist who has since become a member of the Chamber of Deputies.

THE HANDY MAN OF THE FRENCH NAVY.—The explosion at Toulon Arsenal on September 18 was investigated by the ordinary "Navy Committee" (Commission de la flotte), reinforced by special order of Vice-Admiral Marquis, Maritime Prefect, by a chief engineer and head pharmacist. The special duty of the latter was to analyse the absorbent cotton and to report whether spontaneous combustion was possible.

HELIOTROPIN DUTY.—A French Customs Circular states that in virtue of a decision of the "Comité consultatif des Arts et Manufactures," Customs duty is to be levied on heliotropin imported into France at the rate of 1.60*f.* per kilo., corresponding to the consumption duty on the 2 litres of alcohol (80*c.* per litre) employed in the preparation of 1 kilo. of heliotropin. Crude heliotropin in a crystalline mass of yellowish colour, which has not been purified by means of alcohol, will continue to be classified under the head of "Chemical products not specially mentioned, other than those with an alcoholic basis."

AT THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' CONGRESS at Bordeaux the pharmacy students of Paris, Montpellier, Nancy, Rennes, Nantes, Amiens, and Lille were represented, besides, of course, their Bordelais comrades. The question of a national federation of pharmacy students was discussed, and it was decided that this subject should be further considered at a Congress to be held in Paris at the end of this year. The following resolution was also passed:

The pharmacy students declare that they take no part in the debates raised on all sides regarding the reform of the pharmaceutical curriculum. But, considering they are the persons most interested in the question, they venture to hope that the Minister will admit the representatives of pharmacy students to the committee for the reform of these studies.

THE SCIENTIFIC TRAINING of the pharmacist in France is based on the principles laid down by Professor Meldola at Bloomsbury Square last week, that it is "obviously impossible that in eight or nine months any great mastery can be gained over the sciences of chemistry and physics, botany, pharmacy, and materia medica." The French student spends three years on these studies, exclusive of the three years' apprenticeship during which he attains preliminary knowledge. Nor is physiology (mentioned by the professor as omitted from the British pharmacist's curriculum) forgotten. As a matter of fact, the French pharmacist leaves the school equipped with a serious education which renders him, in country places especially, the village oracle in all scientific and semi-scientific matters. Whether the three or four years of "scolarité" which keep the young fellow away from the counter from the age of twenty or twenty-one, until he is twenty-four or twenty-five, do not diminish his commercial value, is a different matter. But as the rule is the same for all Frenchmen, and it is now very difficult for a foreigner to qualify unless he has been educated in France, this hardly affects the pharmacist himself very intimately.

THE exports of opium from Smyrna during 1906 amounted to 3,665 cases, or 253 tons, against 3,322 cases, or 207 tons, in 1905.

Australasian News.

The fullest information regarding the Australasian drug-trade and pharmacy is given in "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia," copies of which can be obtained at 6d. each, post free, from the office of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

The Commonwealth.

TARIFF NOTES.—A meeting of chemists was held in Adelaide on August 19 to consider how the position of the trade is affected by the new tariff. It was suggested that the following substances should be freed from extra taxation as proposed by the Federal Government: Boric acid, salicylic acid, sodium salicylate, essential oils, cotton-wool, teats and tubing for feeding-bottles, tubing and fittings for douches, and corks. The reasons for exempting these goods are either that the duties impose a tax on humanity during sickness or that the articles cannot be manufactured profitably in Australia. The meeting also considered the question of raising the price of patent medicines 1d. in the shilling and tinctures to 9d. per oz., 6d. per ½ oz., and 1s. per 1½ oz., but it was decided to appoint a committee to further consider this subject.

The September number of "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia" gives the new tariff rates of those items which concern the drug-trade, with a comparison of the old, new, and preference rates.

On August 15, Messrs. Campbell and Davis, representing American and British manufacturers, waited on the Minister of Customs with reference to the duty on bottles containing medicines and other preparations on which the duty of 9s., 12s., and 13s. per gross is charged in addition to any duty on the contents. They brought under notice a shipment landing from F. Stearns & Co., Detroit, in Melbourne. It contained 114 cases of medicinal preparations, out of which 91 cases contained preparations in bottles; 227 doz. of the bottles were 2 oz. and under, 144 doz. over 2 oz., the duty on which would be 13l. 3s. 5d., while under the old tariff the duty would be about 30s. in all. Of the 368 doz. bottles, 252 doz. contained preparations subject to a duty of 15 per cent., 47 doz. subject to 35 per cent. *ad val.*, in which cases duty would be paid twice—first on the cost of the bottles (included in the cost of the articles) at 15 per cent. and again in the fixed duty; 55 doz. were subject to 8s. per gal. duty, the balance subject to a duty of 25s. per gal. It was urged that the old tariff should be reverted to.

THE SALE OF BEALE'S REPORT STOPPED.—The report was referred to in the House of Representatives on August 29, when Dr. Liddell said that in his opinion the report, which has cost 477l. 8s. to print, ought not to be generally circulated among the public, as it reveals secrets which in the hands of unprincipled persons might cause mischief. Dr. Liddell and Mr. Johnson both asked what were Mr. Beale's qualifications to act as commissioner. Sir William Lyne, Acting Prime Minister, said that a firm of lawyers had written warning them against circulating the report, and someone was haunting the precincts about the matter. Next day the sale of the report was stopped absolutely. Mr. G. F. Birks, the Hon. Secretary of the Manufacturing Chemists' and Proprietors' Association, has addressed a letter to the "Register," Adelaide, in which he shows that the evidence given in Mr. Beale's report is in many cases misleading, and the report lacks the judicial attitude which alone makes such publications of value to the Government.

New South Wales.

THE NEW TARIFF.—The Sydney correspondent of the "Times," telegraphing on October 3, says the spasmodic increase in prices which followed the promulgation of the new tariff has now stopped, and prices are sinking to their old level. Local manufacturers are engaging all available labour and buying sites for new factories.

SALE OF QUININE-WINE.—Mr. John Townley, registered pharmacist, 421 Crown Street, Surry Hills, Sydney, was at the Central Police Court, on August 21, charged under the Liquor Act with selling quinine-wine without being the holder of a licence. Evidence was given to the effect that the wine sold was not B.P. and contained only 5 grains of

quinine per pint. The Magistrate said the case for the Crown is "Was this wine being sold for medicinal purposes?" After considerable discussion between counsel the Magistrate held that as defendant sold the wine in the ordinary way there was no evidence that it was not for medicinal purposes, and dismissed the summons.

New Zealand.

METHYLATED SPIRITS BILL.—This Bill has passed the Upper House, and was read a first time on August 7 in the House of Representatives.

THE ANTI-QUACKERY BILL.—The Select Committee on this Bill has been obtaining a good deal of evidence on the nature of the work carried on by charlatans. Mr. J. T. M. Hornsby, Chairman of the Committee, hopes that something will be done to stem the tide of rascaldom that sweeps over the people through the advertisements of fraudulent quacks. The Bill, he states, does not touch the honest and the clean man.

EFFECT OF THE TARIFF.—The alterations in the Customs tariff of the Dominion have suggested to the chemists of Auckland and Wellington that the opportunity might be taken to improve the condition of the patent-medicine trade. The Northern Pharmaceutical Association on August 24 appointed a committee of ten to draw up a price-list to be considered in conjunction with the Shopkeepers' Association. The Central Pharmaceutical Association called a special meeting on August 31, and discussed a price-list about which there is a likelihood of coming to an agreement with the grocers. (See *C. & D.*, October 5, p. 533.)

Tasmania.

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.—The by-laws of the Pharmacy Board, which have now been gazetted, had been passed, placed on the minutes, the minutes confirmed, and the by-laws acted upon for several years, but the gazetting will remove doubts from the minds of some.

Victoria.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' DISPENSARIES.—The Pharmaceutical Council has taken vigorous action in connection with the Bill to amend the Friendly Societies Act, which would give the societies the right to trade in drugs and chemicals. In addition to deputations to the Minister in charge of the Bill, two members of the Council have been present at Parliament House every time the Friendly Societies Amendment Act has been down on the notice paper. On August 15 Mr. Glass, M.L.A., moved for leave to introduce a Bill to amend Part 3 of the Medical Act 1890, and the Bill was brought in and read a first time. The amendment would give a friendly society or company the right to carry on the business of a chemist and druggist if a registered chemist were employed.

DISPENSARIES.—At the Bendigo Dispensary, it is understood that anyone, not merely purchasing members, can buy just as from any drug shop, and such customers are supplied with perfumes, soap, hair-brushes, and all ordinary sundries; and at another dispensary, according to Mr. A. J. Owen, in a letter in "The Age," proprietary articles are put up and sold to storekeepers and hawkers. Business of every description is pushed just as by an ordinary trader, and the dispensaries thus compete with the druggist, the grocer, the fancy-goods dealer, and others on very unfair terms. This is declared by the High Court to be illegal, and it is now sought to legalise such trading. Moreover, the Bendigo representatives of the Friendly Societies in Bendigo and district have pointed out that whereas in many places it may not be possible to maintain a Friendly Societies' Dispensary on the ordinary contributions, yet, if they were allowed to enter into trading, the profits might help them to do this. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that both in Victoria and South Australia the majority of the Friendly Societies and their branches are insolvent. The Bendigo Dispensary Board on August 2 passed the following resolution:—

That the Bendigo United Friendly Societies Board, representing twenty-eight societies and a membership of 2,766, urges upon the Parliamentary representatives to so amend the Friendly Societies Act as to secure the rights of Friendly Societies' Dispensaries and Medical Institutes to trade under their rules, as registered by the Government, as existing prior to the decision of the High Court against the Prahran Dispensary.

South African News.

(From the "C. & D." Correspondents.)

Note.—"The Chemist and Druggist" is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:

South African Pharmaceutical Association.
Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony.
Natal Pharmaceutical Society.
Transvaal Pharmaceutical Society.
Rhodesia Pharmaceutical Society.
Northern District Chemists' Association.
Pharmaceutical Society of Orange River Colony.

Cape Colony.

THE CIVIL SERVICE STORES.—In view of the representations made by a deputation which waited upon him recently, Dr. Jameson, the Prime Minister, has agreed to ask the directors of the Civil Service Stores, Ltd., to adopt the policy of confining the membership or list of subscribers to the Stores to Civil servants only. He informed the deputation that he was of opinion that Civil servants should not be on the management of the concern, as the State had prior call upon their energies; also that the Stores should have confined their sphere of operations to Civil servants only.

PRESCRIPTIONS FOR OPIUM.—A special meeting of the Cape Colonial Medical Council was held at Cape Town, on September 16, to inquire into charges made against Dr. John McMullen, of Dover Street, Cape Town. Dr. K. F. C. Murray, President of the Council, was in the chair, and Dr. McMullen was charged with "infamous or disgraceful conduct in that he granted prescriptions to the following persons to be dispensed for purposes other than those *bonafide* for medical purposes":

(1) On or about May 11, 1907, to one Gamaldien, 4 lb. of opium; (2) on or about May 18, 1907, to one Rajah, 3 lb. of opium; (3) on or about May 19, 1907, to one Gamaldien, 3 lb. of opium; (4) on or about June 3, 1907, to one Gamaldien Domingo, 3 lb. of opium; (5) on or about June 5, to one Gamaldien, 3 lb. of opium; (6) on or about June 10, 1907, to one Aghamaldien, 3 lb. of opium; (7) on or about June 10, 1907, to one Rajah, 2 lb. of opium; (8) on or about June 28, 1907, to one Gamaldien, 3 lb. of opium.

The opium in each case was dispensed by Mr. W. J. Strange, chemist, Hanover Street and Overbeck Square, Cape Town. Evidence was given by Henry Charles Bellew, of the Public Health Department, who was detailed to inspect the registers kept by chemists and druggists showing their dealings in opium. When Bellew called on Mr. Strange he was informed that no registers had been kept, but he was shown the prescription-book, and took copies of some of the prescriptions. The principal witness was Dr. Gregory, medical officer of health for the Colony, and in the course of his statement Dr. Gregory said the prescribing and dispensing of large quantities of opium was brought to his notice by a prominent man in the trade, who considered that such procedure was meant to defeat the object of the Act. His informant pointed out that while all reputable chemists and druggists were dead against the sale of opium for illegitimate purposes and were doing all they could to keep within the law, certain persons were selling it in medical prescriptions. His informant was ultimately responsible under the Act, he being an importer; therefore he had refused to supply opium on several occasions, because he was not satisfied as to what was becoming of it. Dr. Darley Hartley said he understood that the whole responsibility fell on the chemist as to whether the opium was for medicinal purposes, and not on the medical man who issued the prescription. Dr. Gregory replied that he was of opinion the chemist would have a perfectly sound defence in pleading a medical prescription. In further reply to Dr. Hartley, Dr. Gregory said that nowhere else than in Cape Town, and, in one or two isolated instances, in Port Elizabeth and in Kimberley, had opium been prescribed as in these prescriptions. The Chairman, referring to the case of the man Rajah, for whom 5 lb. had been prescribed in twenty-four days, asked if one man was likely to consume that quantity in that time. Dr. Gregory said a confirmed opium smoker could not consume more than 3 lb. in one month. In cross-examination by counsel for the defendant, Dr. Gregory said he knew the chemist was liable, but he

could not say that the medical man was not liable. The regulations laid it down that a medical prescription was, on the face of it, a reasonable indication that the drug was required for medicinal purposes. Counsel for the defendant objected to the way in which the prescriptions had been put in, and submitted that the proper person to prove them was Mr. Strange. He objected to the copies that had been made, and the Council adjourned in order that Mr. Strange might be sent for. In his evidence Mr. Strange deposed to dispensing the prescriptions of Dr. McMullen. He had not before dispensed opium in such large quantities, but he had dispensed opium on prescriptions from different doctors. The hearing was adjourned.

Transvaal.

FIRE.—A disastrous fire occurred on September 10 at the works of the new Transvaal Chemical Co., situated at Delamore, between Germiston and Boksburg. The factory proper was entirely consumed.

EARLY CLOSING.—All the chemists in the centre of Johannesburg had agreed to keep open on Sundays for four hours only. On September 8 all closed but one. On September 15 all except two closed, and it is feared that others will ultimately break through.

A NEW BUSINESS.—In spite of the bad times in Johannesburg, still another pharmacy has made its appearance in the centre of the town. The "Central Pharmacy" has been opened in Eloff Street, under the management of Mr. J. C. Koller, late of Jeppes town.

QUESTION AND ANSWER.—A circular containing a series of questions has been submitted to the leading commercial men in the Transvaal. The questions are as follows:

1. The condition of existing Transvaal industries, manufacturing and agricultural, and the possibility of the extension of such industries.
 2. That encouragement or protection should be given to such industries and by what means and to what extent, whether by protective duties, bounties, railway rates, or otherwise.
 3. What effect the Customs Union Convention and railway rates, preferential or otherwise, and bounties have had on such industries?
 4. In what proportions imported and local products or raw materials enter into local manufactures, and to what extent white labour is used as compared with coloured labour?
 5. To what extent the use of coloured or Asiatic labour in the neighbouring Colonies is prejudiced to continuance and establishment of industries in this Colony?
 6. What effect the Customs Union Convention and the parcels post have had on the transfer of business to the coast and elsewhere?
 7. Generally as to the best steps to be taken to encourage and promote the trade and industries of this Colony.
 8. The desirability of amending the classification of the present Customs tariff, and in what directions.
- The answers sent by a leading firm of chemists on the Rand (and given herewith) may be taken as indicative of a strong and generally held opinion among Johannesburg business-men:

1. The manufacture of pharmaceutical preparations and household druggists' specialities is increasing but very slowly.
2. A duty of 33½ per cent. should be placed as a protective duty on all patent medicines and packed goods entering the Transvaal from Coast Colonies or elsewhere.
3. The alcoholic duty has assisted pharmaceutical industry in the Transvaal.
4. South African produce enters into four-fifths of the value in local manufactures, and coloured labour is not permissible under the Alcoholic Proclamation No. 82, 1906.
5. The proportion of white girls to natives employed in factories in the Transvaal is greater than in the Coast Colonies.
6. The Customs Union Tariff and the parcels post act detrimentally to the interests of the manufacturer in the Transvaal in favour of the Coast Colonies.
7. Place 33½ per cent. protective duty on all goods which can be manufactured in the Transvaal.
8. Place all druggists' packed goods along with secret remedies under Tariff No. 53 and make that tariff 33½ per cent. or more.

NEVER AGAIN.—A subscriber (245/8) who thought (for a few months only) that he could do without the *C. & D.*, in renewing his subscription, adds: "I have no intention of missing the best weekly in the world again."

India and the East.

(From "C. & D." Correspondents.)

THE CONTRACT for the supply of drugs and sundries to the Government hospitals and dispensaries in the Punjab has passed from Messrs. E. Plomer & Co., Lahore, to Messrs. Frank Bliss & Co., Lahore.

UNWELCOME.—The announcement that the Army headquarters of the Eastern Command are to vacate Naini Tal at the close of this season will not be welcomed by the chemists at that beautiful station.

MR. JAMES WRIGHT, who represents Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons, Lorimer & Co., Ltd., and John Gosnell & Co., Ltd., in India, has opened his new office at 2 Mission Row, Calcutta, where a full show of samples of the goods of these firms is to be seen.

A HANDBOOK of the commercial products of India, by Sir George Watt, is to be published under the auspices of the Government. This will set forth in detail the history, source, materials, products utilised, and trade returns of all the major products and industries of India.

INVESTIGATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS at the Pusa Agricultural Research Institute as to the uses of commercial fertilisers for Indian crops, particularly with regard to mineral fertilisers for cotton, sulphate of ammonia for sugar-cane, and the more general introduction of saltpetre as a manure.

OPIMUM IN PERAK.—The annual report on the Federated Malay States for 1906 states that the number of chests of opium imported into Perak was 2,545, on which duty at \$560 per chest was levied to the extent of \$1,425,200, about 100 chests more than in 1905. During the year it was decided to improve the condition of the opium shops as to cleanliness and ventilation, to put the trade in the hands of people in a larger way of business, and to curtail the hours of smoking.

BUSINESS CHANGES.—Mr. Partridge, the proprietor of Partridge & Co., chemists and aerated-water manufacturers, Darjeeling, is looking for a purchaser for his business. The old-established business of Symonds & Co., Lahore, is about to change hands, if not to be closed down.—Messrs. Charles & Co., Cawnpore and Jhansi, are trying to dispose of their Jhansi branch.—Mr. R. B. Hamer, late of Messrs. R. Scott, Thomson & Co., Calcutta, has taken over the business of Mr. P. Keogh at Mussoorie.—Mr. A. J. Slinn has taken over the business management of Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., Tientsin, from Mr. O. S. Williams.

PATENTS IN JAPAN.—The attention of persons desirous of taking out patents in Japan is particularly directed to the provisions of the Industrial Property Convention of 1883, as modified by the "Additional Act" of 1900—to which Japan is a party—which allow an applicant for a patent in one of the States parties to the Convention a twelve months' right of priority in regard to applications for patents for the same subject-matter in other contracting States. It has been suggested to the Board of Trade that it is very desirable that British subjects wishing to take out patents in such a State should not fail to make their applications within the twelve months in which, by the Convention, they are entitled to protection. Patentees and applicants for patents are warned that delay may prevent them from obtaining valid patents in such a State, and permit any person to manufacture their inventions there.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS IN CHINA.—Writing in regard to the development of trade in China, the British Consul at Chefoo states that if an enterprising man representing a group of manufacturers of suitable articles were to establish a central dépôt for exhibiting them, advertised well by means of posters, which is now being generally done throughout the North of China, and if the traveller sent out active agents to travel through the districts he was working, the Consul believes he would soon build up a good business, provided he was content with a reasonable profit. At first he would possibly not meet with a great measure of success, but in time the Chinese would get to know him and trust him, if he and his goods were trustworthy, and small buyers would then buy from his stock, while larger dealers would have an opportunity of seeing samples of what they wanted and would order freely on commission.

Colonial and Foreign News.

PHARMACISTS AND ALCOHOL IN FINLAND.—The Finnish Senate is preparing a Bill which proposes to prohibit, with certain exceptions, the manufacture, sale, and importation of alcoholic beverages in Finland. The retail trade in alcoholic articles is to be placed in the hands of pharmacists, who will only be allowed to deliver them on a medical order. This is not only the case with spirits, but also with Hoffmann drops and similar domestic medicines.

THE NEW AUSTRIAN PHARMACY LAW OF 1906 provides that the authorities of the various States shall pass the necessary by-laws to ensure an adequate Sunday rest to pharmacists without interfering with the supply of medicine. In Silesia it has been enacted that in places where there are two pharmacies, one is forced by law to remain closed on alternate Sundays from midday to Monday morning at seven o'clock. In places with several pharmacies, if of an even number, half are to be closed, otherwise the larger proportion.

PROPOSED CHEMICAL STATE INSTITUTE.—At the recent general meeting of the Union for the Promotion of the Interests of German Chemical Industry held in Lübeck, the proposed establishment of a Chemical State Institute was discussed. The members of the Union have assigned 380,000m. for this purpose, the Prussian Ministry of Finance has promised a free site for the erection of the building, and the State is disposed to lend financial aid. In spite of this it would appear that the capital is still insufficient for the carrying out of this project.

SPECIALITIES IN RUSSIA.—The following specialities are entered in the "Journals of the Medical Council" as admitted into Russia: To be sold in pharmacies and in pharmaceutical stores—Parke, Davis & Co.'s compressed tablets of potassium permanganate, of potassium iodide, of calol, of powdered rhubarb, of sodium bicarbonate, of charcoal, of sodium salicylate, and of compound liquorice-powder. To be sold in pharmacies on prescription—compressed tablets of aspirin, of phenolphthalein, and of ichthyol, Keene & Co.'s cascara tablets ("cascarkeens"). The following are refused admission as containing strong active ingredients: Winter & Co.'s blood-purifier, Parke, Davis & Co.'s chocolate-coated tablets of calomel, liquor sedans, compressed tablets of phenacetin, tablets of Dover's powder, and fluid extract of digitalis.

THE NEW SWISS PATENT LAW, around which there has been so much controversy in chemical circles in spite of the concessions it makes to the latter industry, does not yet find favour with the German chemical manufacturers. At two important meetings of this industry held last month it was noted with regret that the new law does not offer sufficient guarantees for an adequate protection of German products, besides being difficult to obtain owing to the many formalities to be gone through. The "Pharmazeutische Zeitung" remarks "that when the important civilised nations have agreed as regards the protection of the brain property of their citizens, Switzerland will not be able to keep aloof in the interests of a few manufacturers who devote themselves to the manufacture of imitations, and therefore time will bring about a change in the deficiencies of this law."

THE INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY OF MULHOUSE have issued their programme of prizes to be awarded in 1908. This Society (as C. & D. readers are aware) award annual prizes for original research work in industrial chemistry and mechanics, mainly in connection with bleaching and colouring various fabrics. In the region of "Arts Chimiques" medals and diplomas will be awarded for papers on (among other things) the synthesis of the colouring matters in cochineal, on the carmine in cochineal, on colouring matter for cottons, on the composition of aniline blacks, on the action of chlorine on wool, on the synthetic production of a natural colour and the natural formation of an organic product, on mordants, colours, etc. Papers, designs, etc., must be sent in before February 15, 1908, to the President de la Société Industrielle de Mulhouse (Alsace-Lorraine), from whom further details of this international competition may be obtained.

Legal Reports.

Pharmacy Act, 1868.

"DOCTORS" FINED.

At Brompton County Court on October 7, before Judge Selfe, Dr. Jabez Munro, of Brackenbury Road, Hammer-smith, was summoned, at the instance of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (1) for selling laudanum and soap liniment; and (2) for using the name of "Chemist," he not being registered under the Act nor within the exemptions of Section 16. It transpired that the defendant holds an American medical qualification. The statutory penalties were imposed, with costs.

Dr. Sidney Scott, of Fulham Palace Road, was at the same time summoned for selling white precipitate, he not being registered as a chemist or as a medical practitioner. George Waldock, an inspector in the Society's service, said that on June 12 last he called at Fulham Palace Road and bought from the defendant a packet of white precipitate.—Judge Selfe: Why is he not allowed to sell poison? It is properly marked on the packet.—The Solicitor: Because he is not a qualified chemist under Section 15 of the Act.—The register was produced, and his Honour, being satisfied that defendant was not legally entitled to sell poisons, imposed a fine of 5*l.*, and costs.

Companies Acts.

AN OPTICAL AFFAIR.

At Marlborough Street Police Court, on October 8, the British Optical Association, of 199 Piccadilly, W., was summoned for not, it was alleged, keeping a proper register of its members, and for making default in forwarding a copy of memorandum and articles of association to a member. In addition, a summons had been taken out against Mr. John Hamer Sutcliffe, acting-secretary of the association, for having made a statement false in a material particular in the memorandum and articles of association. Summonses had been taken out against Mr. A. W. Oxbrow, of Norwich, president of the association; Mr. James Lucking, of Birmingham, vice-president; and Mr. R. G. Orr, of Cavendish Road West, N.W.; and Mr. M. W. Dunscombe, of Bristol, members of the association. Altogether, there were twenty-two summonses.

Mr. Forrest Fulton and Mr. Eustace Fulton prosecuted, on behalf of Mr. P. G. Alder and Mr. W. J. Wright; Mr. C. F. Gill, K.C., and Mr. Profumo were for the defence, and Mr. Henriques held a watching brief for the Spectaclemakers' Company.

After hearing Mr. Forrest Fulton, the magistrate (Mr. Mead) dismissed the first summons, and the hearing of the second summons was adjourned on the application of Mr. Gill. Mr. Fulton then brought forward the summons against Mr. Sutcliffe, but Mr. Mead held that the section of the Act in question did not apply and dismissed it, as well as the remaining summonses. With regard to the question of costs raised by Mr. Gill, the magistrate said that question would be adjourned until the end of October.

Merchandise Marks Acts.

WHAT IS BURGUNDY?

At West London Police Court on October 4, George Henry Goldsworthy, chemist and druggist, 192 Fulham Road, South Kensington, was summoned before Mr. Lane, K.C., for selling a bottle of wine as "Burgundy" which was not Burgundy wine, and to which the false trade description of "Burgundy" had been applied.

Mr. A. M. Bramall prosecuted on behalf of the Wine and Spirit Association, and Mr. L. B. Sebastian and Mr. Forrest Fulton were counsel for the defence.

Mr. Bramall, in a lengthy opening statement, said that a bottle of wine called Keystone Burgundy was purchased at the defendant's shop, and it was contended for the prosecution that that was not Burgundy wine. "Burgundy" was a geographical term as applied to wine, and the wine to which that description was applied must come from the Burgundy district in France—that is, the old French province of Burgundy, which included the department of Cote d'Or, where the vineyards were chiefly situated. The

prosecution contended that the contents of this bottle did not come from the French Burgundy district, but that the wine was a product of Australia. Mr. Bramall read some correspondence which had passed between his firm and the defendant, from which it transpired that the latter refused to avail himself of the opportunity granted him by the Association of giving information respecting the source whence he obtained the wine, in which event, on the supposition that he had acted innocently in the sale of the wine, no proceedings would have been taken against him. The proprietors of the Keystone Burgundy, Mr. Bramall added, were Stephen Smith & Co., Borough, S.E., and, as showing the disinterested nature of this prosecution, that firm were actually members of the Wine and Spirit Association, and there was no doubt that they were the real defenders to the summons. "Burgundy" was an elliptical expression meaning wine produced in the Burgundy district. Burgundy had a flavour and bouquet different from other wines, due, probably, to the species of vine and the soil. Even if transplanted to Australia, for instance, the difference in the soil produced a different wine. "Burgundies" from California or Australia are always labelled "Californian" or "Australian," whereas in the case of Keystone Burgundy there is nothing on the label to indicate its origin. Evidence of purchase was given, and four experts deposed to tasting the wine and being of the decided opinion that it was not Burgundy. The hearing was adjourned.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

MILK OF SULPHUR.

At Marlborough Street Police Court on October 4, Heinrich Lieblisch, trading as a chemist in Wardour Street, W., was summoned before Mr. Mead for selling "flowers of sulphur" when milk of sulphur was demanded. Mr. Rotton, who prosecuted for the Westminster City Council, said the feature of most importance in the case was that milk of sulphur was about four times as expensive as "flowers of sulphur," a purchaser being seriously prejudiced by receiving the cheaper article. "Milk of sulphur," he said, "was obtained by precipitation, and came out as a fine powder, whereas flowers of sulphur was vaporised, and became small crystals." The purchase of a sample having been proved, the defendant pleaded not guilty, and declared that he told the purchaser that he did not keep milk of sulphur, which was very seldom asked for, but only flowers of sulphur. He had been in the trade twenty years, and had always had a reputation for being honest and fair dealing. Mr. Mead imposed a fine of 30*s.*, with 12*s.* 6*d.* costs.

PAREGORIC.

At West Bromwich Police Court on October 7, before the Stipendiary Magistrate (Mr. Neville), Frank Evans, a shopkeeper, of Carter's Green, West Bromwich, was charged with selling paregoric which was deficient to the extent of 100 per cent. of tincture of opium. The sale of the article was admitted. Mr. C. H. Darby, who defended, explained that it should have been sold as paregoric mixture. Defendant was not a qualified chemist, and he would render himself liable to a heavy penalty if he sold paregoric containing opium. The defendant's mother actually sold the mixture, and she did not understand how to label it. The Stipendiary, while recognising that defendant was in a difficulty, remarked that cases of adulteration of drugs were serious matters, as it was essential that all drugs should be sold in a pure state. He imposed a fine of 40*s.*, and costs, in all 4*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*, with the alternative of one month's imprisonment.

County Court Cases.

CLAIMING FOR AN ACCOUNT PAID.

In the City of London Court on Friday, October 4, before Mr. Registrar Wild, Pawson & Gillett, indiarubber goods manufacturers, 29 Carter Lane, sued Mr. E. B. Baynard, drug-stores, Ironbridge, Shropshire, for an account alleged to be due for goods supplied. The plaintiffs' representative said that a letter had been sent by the defendant acknowledging the debt and promising payment. Defendant admitted that it had been sent by him, and in answer to the

Registrar stated that he had paid the account, and produced a receipt. The plaintiffs' representative looked at the receipt, and admitted that the account had been settled. The defendant said he had already written to the plaintiff firm informing them that he had paid their account. Mr. Registrar Wild said he thought it was monstrous that people should be summoned to pay over again the amount of an account already paid. He wished there was power given to the Court to fine such people on those occasions an extra amount. The defendant would be allowed his railway fare and hotel expenses, having to come to London the previous day, and also his expenses for attending the Court as a witness. The Defendant: I have had to close my business premises for two days. The Registrar said that the law did not take any notice of that, and he could therefore make no allowance on that score. The defendant was allowed 3*l.* 10*s.* in all.

LIABILITY FOR SYPHONS.

At the Wandsworth County Court on October 7, Judge Russell had before him the case of the Coronation Beverage Co., Ltd., *v.* H. A. Woodwell & Co., in which the plaintiffs sued the defendants, who carry on business as wine and spirit merchants in Cavendish Road, Balham, to recover 12*l.* 4*s.*, the value of 122 siphons. Arthur Harris, one of the plaintiffs' travellers, stated that he negotiated the opening of an account with the defendants, and explained to them that the siphons were supplied free of charge, and that any that were broken or not returned must be paid for. The defendants had failed to return the number mentioned in the summons. The Judge remarked that it did not sound like a business transaction at all to let a firm have siphons without a deposit. Siphons were generally worth ten times as much as the stuff inside them. (Laughter.)

Counsel said there was a great competition in this trade, and witness, in reply to a further question, said that a customer's loss averaged about three siphons a month. Mr. Pearson, manager of the defendants' Balham business, said that when buying of other firms they used to deposit a shilling for each siphon, but the plaintiffs agreed to let them have them absolutely free of charge. He did not undertake to pay for lost siphons. His Honour said there was absolutely no defence to the action, and he was surprised that people should have set it up. He gave judgment for the plaintiffs for the full amount claimed, with costs.

A MULTITUDE OF MISFORTUNES.

At Shoreditch County Court on October 8, before Judge Smyly, K.C., Messrs. Johns, Son & Watts, 40 City Road, E.C., were the plaintiffs in a judgment summons against Wilson's Pharmacy Stores, of 27 Turnpike Lane, Hornsey, N., and William Barrett, of the same address. Plaintiffs' representative explained that at the time the debt was incurred Mr. Barrett carried on Wilson's Pharmacy Stores, the amount owing being for goods supplied. When they applied for the money they were met with a bill of sale.

Judge Smyly said from what he could gather the defendant Barrett is the manager of the shop at 27 Turnpike Lane under the bill of sale. He had written to say that he only earns 2*l.* a week, out of which he has to pay 8*s.* 6*d.* for hire of furniture and 12*s.* per month under an order of Judge Bacon for a debt of 45*l.* He also pointed out that he has nine other judgments out against him for amounts that total up to 100*l.* "He certainly seems to be in a pretty bad way," said the Judge, "and, taking all the circumstances into consideration, I think an order for 4*s.* a month will meet the case."

An order was made accordingly, with committal if not paid in ten days.

Gazette.

Partnership Dissolved.

BOLDERO, F., and TURNER, P. W., under the style of Boldero & Turner, Penkridge, Staffordshire, surgeons.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATION.

COWEN, THOMAS RICHARD JOHN, Half-Moon Street, Piccadilly, W., surgeon.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re EDWARD ISZATT ESSAM, trading as a Chemist at Billingham, Lines.—The trustee reports that the realisation of the estate, which has been completed, will enable him to pay to the unsecured creditors a first and final dividend of 7*s.* 11*d.* in the pound.

Re HENRY P. THOMPSON, 9 Aldersgate Buildings, E.C., trading as the Foreign and General Agency, Druggists' Sundriesman.—The adjourned first meeting of creditors under this failure was held at the London Bankruptcy Court before Mr. Egerton S. Grey, Official Receiver, on October 10. Mr. Grey reported that the arrangements for the payment of a composition had fallen through, and a resolution was passed for Mr. George Emerson (Josalyne Mills & Blow), 23 King Street, Cheapside, E.C., to act as trustee and administer the estate in bankruptcy with the assistance of a committee of inspection to be hereafter appointed. The debtor was directed to attend the Court on November 26 for his public examination.

New Companies and Company News

LICENSED VICTUALLERS' CO-OPERATIVE MINERAL-WATERS ASSOCIATION, LTD.—Capital 7,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of mineral-water manufacturers carried on at Church Road, Leyton, as "Watts Brothers & Nicholson," and the similar business carried on at Latona Road, Peckham, S.E., by H. Merry. Minimum cash subscription 5,000*l.* The first directors are H. Merry, P. C. Watts, W. J. Thomas, and J. Dannhorn. Registered office, Church Road, Leyton.

SAYERS, SILCOX, CUZNER & CO., LTD.—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of manufacturers of bandages, belts, artificial limbs, trusses, surgical instruments, and druggists' sundries, carried on by J. S. Sayers at 14-16 Prospect Street, Hull, as "Sayers, Silcox, Cuzner & Co." The first subscribers are: J. S. Sayers, Mrs. C. A. Sayers, J. H. Morrison, F. Ellerington, W. J. Bulman, Vera A. Empson, and H. Ibberson. The first directors are J. S. Sayers (governing director), J. H. Morrison, and F. Ellerington.

REDDISH, LISTER & CO., LTD.—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of an analyst and manufacturer of toilet and household requisites carried on by W. S. Lister at Caroline Street, Hull, and to carry on the same and the business of chemical manufacturers, drysalts, chemists, druggists, etc. The first subscribers are: W. S. Lister, 109 Newstead Street, Hull, manufacturer; Mrs. F. A. Lister; Miss E. Lister; W. H. Reddish, manufacturer; Miss W. Reddish; W. Reddish, gentleman; and Mrs. E. Reddish. The first directors are W. H. Reddish and W. S. Lister (governing directors for life). Qualification 50*l.* Remuneration as fixed by the board. Registered office, Providence Mill, Warehouse Lane, Kirkburton, Yorks.

WEST COAST PACKING CO., LTD.—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of a manufacturer and seller of disinfectants, sea-salts, effervescent-salts, etc., the recipes for which are in the possession of C. H. Fry, and to carry on the business of dry goods dealers, packers of and dealers in patent medicines and foodstuffs, etc. The first subscribers (each with one share) are: C. H. Fry, Blackpool, drysalt; Mrs. M. E. Fry; F. F. Wilcockson, Blackpool, estate agent; J. R. Fox, clerk; J. V. Haworth, Blackpool, auctioneer and valuer; J. Atkins, Blackpool, store manager; and J. C. Bolton, Blackpool, incorporated accountant. The first directors are C. H. Fry (chairman and general manager) and two others to be appointed by the subscribers. Registered office, 6 Birley Street, Blackpool.

BENGER'S FOOD, LTD.—The directors have declared an interim dividend on the ordinary shares of 9*d.* per share, free of income-tax, for the six months ended September 30.

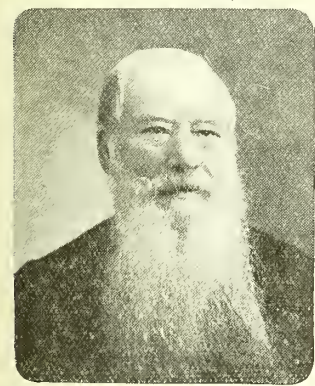
PARKE'S DRUG-STORES.—The dividend of 6 per cent. per annum on preference shares for the half-year ended September 30 is to be paid on October 21, and the transfer-books will be closed from October 13 for a week.

HENRY SQUIRE, LTD.—The affairs of this company are at present under investigation by a firm of chartered accountants at the request of the chairman of the company. We understand that Mr. C. C. Reece has resigned, and that the secretary, Mr. L. H. Kingston, has absconded. The investigations at the present stage point to serious charges against Mr. Kingston. The business is being carried on *pro tem.* with Mr. John B. Ball (of Ball, Baker, Deed, Cornish & Co.), 1 Gresham Buildings, Basinghall Street, E.C., as managing director, and Mr. C. W. Cornish, of the same firm, as secretary. It is probable that the shareholders may have to protect themselves by the appointment of a Receiver, but it is hoped that it will not be necessary to wind up the company.

Deaths.

ARROWSMITH.—At 12 Akenside Terrace, Jesmond-on-Tyne, on October 6, Mr. Lancelot Arrowsmith, chemist and druggist, aged seventy-four. Mr. Arrowsmith had been ill for some time. About six months ago one of his legs was amputated, and he recovered sufficiently to be taken out in a bath-chair, but for the past four months he had been unable to leave his room. Mr. Arrowsmith was an old and well-known Novocastrian, having been born in the Ouseburn, where his father carried on business for many years. After an apprenticeship of five years, and after acting as an assistant for eight years with the late Mr. Joseph Fairs (whose business is now carried on by Messrs. Wilkinson & Simpson, Newgate Street), Mr. Arrowsmith started business on his own account in the Cut Bank, Ouseburn, afterwards removing to Shields Road, Byker. He became popular in the neighbourhood, and his benevolent disposition and kindness to the poor, whom he advised as to their ailments, earned him the title of "The Doctor." From his youth upwards he took a keen interest in religious, municipal, and political affairs. He was a member of the Board of Guardians for many years, being vice-chairman for some years, and on retirement he was "father of the Board." He was also one of the first members of the Heaton and Byker Burial Board. Mr. Arrowsmith was at one time auditor of the Newcastle Chemists' Association. He was one of the best-known men in the East End, and was held in the highest esteem by every section of the community. In business he was a man of the highest integrity. At the latter part of his time in the Ouseburn his business very much declined, and he had some losses. He was compelled to make a composition with his creditors. A few years after, when he had established a good business on Shields Road, he paid every creditor in full. He retired from business about five years ago. He leaves a family of one son and four daughters. The interment took place at Heaton Cemetery on October 8.

BOTTLE.—At Godwyne Road, Dover, on October 4, Mr. Alexander Bottle, J.P., M.R.C.V.S., F.C.S., pharmaceutical chemist, aged ninety. Mr. Bottle had been in his customary robust health until six weeks ago, and the illness which then struck him grew gradually more serious until a fortnight before his death, when he fell into a hopeless condition, and died on Friday of last week. We deal with Mr. Bottle's career elsewhere in this issue. He was the founder of the business of Alexander Bottle & Co., Dover, now carried on by his nephew, Mr. Richard M. Ewell, but had not participated actively in it for some years. He travelled much in these years of his retirement, and as chairman of the Dover Gas Co. presided at the annual meeting just before his last illness seized him. His son, Dr. Alexander Bottle, of Birmingham, was with him at his death. His wife and daughter died some years ago. Mrs. Bottle was the daughter of her husband's apprentice-master.



The funeral took place in the family vault at St. Mary's Cemetery, Dover, on Tuesday afternoon. The mourners included a deputation from the Pharmaceutical Society, comprising Messrs. C. B. Allen, Walter Hills, and Richard Bremridge. The Dover Chemists' Association was represented by Messrs. J. F. Brown, R. M. Ewell, E. W. Ewell, Forster, Long, Hambrook, and Kay. At the sitting of the Dover Bench of Magistrates on Monday a sympathetic reference was made by the Chairman to the loss the Bench had sustained by the death of Mr. Bottle, who was one of its oldest members. The Dover Corporation on Tuesday passed a vote of condolence with the family.

CLARK.—At his residence, Edinburgh, on October 9, Mr. Richard Clark, principal of Messrs. Raimés, Clark & Co., wholesale druggists, Smith's Place, Edinburgh. Mr. Clark was the son of an Edinburgh tea-merchant, and as a young man engaged in the same business, but afterwards went on to the staff of Messrs. Raimés, Blanshard & Co., and represented them. Early in the seventies he entered into partnership with the late Mr. William Pinkerton (then a traveller to Messrs. Sang & Barker), and together as Clark & Pinkerton they commenced business as wholesale druggists at the top of Leith Walk. Mr. Clark devoted most of his time during that partnership to travelling, for which his personality was well adapted. On the dissolution of the partnership through effluxion of time about twenty years ago, Mr. Clark returned to Smith's Place as partner with Mr. Richard Raimés, the firm becoming Raimés, Clark & Co. On Mr. Raimés's death Mr. Clark became sole partner, but later he had associated with him Mr. Davies, who had been with the firm for a lifetime. Mr. Alexander Cunningham also participating in the management of the business, Dr. George Coull being then scientific adviser. Mr. Clark was a keen Conservative, and one of the leaders of that party in Scotland. He had long taken an active share in municipal affairs, and had been President of the Edinburgh Parish Council from its creation up to a year or two ago. Latterly he was a member of the Edinburgh Town Council, and Senior Bailie. He was a candidate for the Lord Provostship at the last election, and it was expected that he would be the next Chief Magistrate of the city. He was a man of magnificent physique, with strong features, and was an excellent speaker. He was twice married, first to Miss Weir, the daughter of an Edinburgh wine-merchant, and then to Mrs. Richard Raimés (the widow of his former partner), and by both of them had children. He was over sixty years of age. While on a tour of inspection as a member of the Lighthouse Commission early in August he was seized with his last illness, and although at times he rallied, his strength gradually waned, and he died on Wednesday evening at six o'clock.

HARCASTLE.—At 2 Finkle Street, Stockton-on-Tees, on October 3, Mr. William Harcastle, chemist and druggist, aged sixty. Mr. Harcastle, who died suddenly from syncope, succeeded to the business of his father, which the latter established in 1806.

MILLER.—At Port of Spain, Trinidad, on August 11, Jessie Ann Laing, widow of Mr. William Kelly Miller, of the English Pharmacy. In our issue of July 27 (p. 113) we reported Mr. Miller's death, which occurred about six weeks before that of Mrs. Miller.

PRIESTLEY.—At Las Palmas, on August 27, Mr. Joseph Priestley, chemist and druggist, late of Blackburn.

QUINN.—At Coalisland, co. Tyrone, recently, Mrs. Mary Quinn, chemist and druggist (Ireland), aged eighty years. Mrs. Quinn had traded in drugs all her life, and at the passing of the Amendment Act in 1890 she was registered as a chemist and druggist. She was for many years a member of the Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland, and was highly esteemed by all classes of the community.

ROBSON.—At 55 Restabrig Road, Leith, on October 5, Alice Hosick, wife of Mr. William Taylor Robson, chemist and druggist, Great Junction Street, Leith.

SYKES.—At Karachi, India, on September 2, Mr. Archibald Sykes, chemist and druggist, aged twenty-seven. Mr. Sykes went out to India, as assistant to Mr. E. Speechly, some two and a half years ago, and his death from cerebral meningitis is deeply regretted by the many friends he made during his short sojourn in Karachi.

SOAP IN BELGIUM.—Toilet-soaps and ordinary washing-soaps of British make are largely sold in Belgium, ordinary soaps predominating. In regard to toilet soaps there is considerable competition with cheap German and Belgian made soaps. Advertising is the best means of increasing trade, says H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp.

PHARMACIES IN CARLSBAD are provided with an ingenious contrivance which is calculated to calm the impatience of the nocturnal customer. Near the night bell is to be seen a small transparent plate on which are inscribed the words "Coming immediately." As soon as the pharmacist hears the bell he lights up this sign from his room. [We translate this from a German contemporary. The idea was illustrated in the *C. & D.* a few years ago by the late Mr. Fred. Reynolds.]

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

THE monthly meeting of the Council was held in the Society's House, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on Wednesday, October 2, at 3 p.m. The President (Dr. Walsh) presided, and there were also present the Vice-President (Mr. John Smith) and Messrs. G. D. Beggs (Hon. Treasurer), W. F. Wells and Thomas Batt (Dublin); James Tate, William Jamison, and W. J. Hardy (Belfast), H. V. Goldon (Birr), and Richard Blair (Cork).

The Secretary of State for the Colonies sent a copy of the report of the Cape of Good Hope Pharmacy Board for the year 1906.

Letters containing applications from candidates for preliminary registration, notifying changes of address, and dealing with other matters were read and disposed of. Reports from the Law, the Certificates, the House, and the Declarations Committees were also dealt with. Mr. G. H. Carleton, of Larnac, was elected a member of the Society. Mr. M. Tucker, of Cork, was nominated for membership.

This being all the public business, the Council adjourned.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

At this month's examination M. O'Callaghan passed with honours. The following also passed: J. P. Dodd, J. Murphy, M. Ryan, and R. M. England. Four other candidates were passed subject to the ratification of the Council. Ten candidates were rejected.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE thirty-second annual meeting of the members was held in the Society's House on Monday, October 7, at 7 p.m. The members of Council present were the President, Dr. Walsh; the Vice-President, Mr. Smith; and Messrs. Wells, Batt, and White (Sligo). Among members present were Messrs. William Allen (ex-President), J. J. Dowling, C. B. Vance, A. I. Barnes, George Brown, J. C. P. O'Farrell, A. A. Brunker, P. T. J. W. Cosgrave, H. Middleton, and Dr. McWalter.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL.

The PRESIDENT read the report of the scrutineers announcing that the following gentlemen—the first six of whom were members who had retired by rotation—had been elected members of Council: Messrs. David M. Watson, James Tate, John Smith, Richard Blair, Henry V. Golden, William V. Johnston, and Joseph Henry Bowden (new member in succession to Mr. H. S. Misstear, retired). He (the President) was sorry that there had not been a contest, for it would have given zest to these proceedings; still the result of the election showed that the Society was pleased with the existing members of the Council.



MR. J. H. BOWDEN.

President's Address.

The PRESIDENT then addressed the meeting as follows: During the twelve months that have elapsed since your Council honoured me by re-electing me to the chair I am happy to be able to state that the Society has made quiet but steady progress. Nothing out of the ordinary has occurred to mark the year, and therefore the following details which I am about to place before you possess nothing particularly striking, but are nevertheless, I trust, sufficiently interesting to engage your attention for a few minutes.

THE EXAMINATIONS.

Eighty-nine candidates entered for the Preliminary examination, of whom 43 were rejected and 46 passed (two

with honours). In 1906 91 candidates presented themselves; 50 were rejected and 41 passed. This year 23 candidates who passed the examinations of other boards were registered as students; 12 were similarly registered last year. Our total of students registered this year was therefore 69, as against 53 last year.

Mr. Michael Carroll, who is now a member of the Society, obtained gold medal marks at the April examination, and I shall therefore have the very great pleasure of presenting him with his well-merited decoration this evening, as no other candidate came up to his marks at the Licence examinations held since. Last year, it will be remembered, there were no medals awarded, as no one was adjudged by the Examiners to have come up to the standard. This gives all the more emphasis to the prize this year, as does also the fact that no one obtained the silver medal. Mr. Carroll stands, therefore, well above his fellow-students and his contemporaries.

Eighty-six candidates entered for the Pharmaceutical Licence examination, of whom 50 were rejected and 36 passed. Last year 100 entered, 70 were rejected, and 30 passed. We therefore had 6 more qualified this year than last. Previous to the July examination the regulation that all candidates who obtained 70 per cent. of the total marks and not less than 50 per cent. should be deemed to have "passed with honours," and should have their certificates so endorsed, came into force, having been approved of by the Privy Council. Two candidates at that examination obtained the necessary marks—namely, Miss Annie Ethel Roberts and Mr. G. T. Wilson—and their certificates were marked accordingly. It is very pleasing to see our ranks being added to by ladies. We now have eight on our Register of Pharmaceutical Chemists, and two of them are members of the Society, and right loyal members they will be I am certain. When we consider the admirable work done in scientific chemistry by ladies—take the case of Madame Curie for example—there is every reason to believe that they will shed equal lustre on the less glorified but equally exacting subject of pharmacy, in which deft fingers and scrupulous attention to details count for so much.

In the Registered Druggists' examination 43 candidates were examined and 16 passed, 27 having been rejected. In the previous year 34 were examined, 16 passed, and 18 were rejected. Thus the passes for the two years were equal, although the percentage was lower for this year than last.

Fifteen candidates presented themselves for the examination for the qualification of pharmaceutical assistant; 6 were rejected, and 9 passed. Last year 18 presented, 5 were rejected, and 13 passed. There has therefore been a falling-off in this examination. It will be remembered that four years' service are required for this examination. This, to my mind, is a great cause why the examination is not taken more advantage of, as, generally speaking, students who have served four years feel that it is not worth their while taking this examination, being entitled, as far as time spent at the business is concerned, to present themselves for the Final examination. I have often thought, and have expressed the opinion when the matter was under discussion by the Council, that it would be advantageous to allow



MR. CARROLL, Ph.C., L.P.S.I.

Born in Cork, and served apprenticeship with Mr. H. H. Warren, Ph.C., Navan. Then went as assistant to Messrs. J. J. Graham & Co., 30 Westmoreland Street, Dublin. While there attended two sessions in chemistry at the Technical Schools, and obtained book prizes each session. Afterwards Mr. Carroll was with Messrs. Hamilton, Long & Co., and left them to enter for the Licence examination in January last, at which he obtained 241 marks out of 300. He is at present manager of Mr. D. J. McGrath's Branch Medical Hall at Baginballytown, co. Carlow.

students after, say, three years at pharmacy, to take out this examination. If they are capable of passing it, they have proved that they have made good use of their three years, and it must be conceded that some apprentices do more practical pharmacy in two or three years than others would have an opportunity of doing in four or even more. It is for the examiner to satisfy himself that they are sufficiently well up to be entrusted with the temporary care of a pharmacy. I think our action in passing a resolution which has now become one of our by-laws, that the Preliminary examination must be passed before the four years' pharmacy required for the Licence examination, was most wise and excellent from every point of view. Up to this it was quite usual to find a student spend a good part of the four years reading up his Latin, French, and other educational subjects, with the result that it was only towards the end of his apprenticeship he turned his mind to matters pharmaceutical, and in not a few instances the whole four years have been spent endeavouring to pass the Preliminary examination. This means that while during the business part of the day he is hoodling and perhaps dispensing drugs he knows nothing about them, and will not use even his ordinary powers of observation, so engrossed is he in his classical studies, which he should have pursued when at school. I trust that the primary effect of this new rule will be that students when they come up for their Final examination will have their minds well stored with practical knowledge gathered and digested during the whole course of their apprenticeship, and differing greatly from that highly compressed quickly attained cram, which evaporates as soon as the examination is over. In the next place, it ought to ensure that those who go to serve their apprenticeship will be educated beforehand, and capable of assimilating the knowledge they may gain, and of taking proper advantage of the opportunities afforded them during their time of service. I would earnestly ask all qualified pharmacists who take apprentices to give a little time and trouble from the beginning in

DIRECTING THE PUPIL'S STUDIES,

questioning him in what he has read, explaining away what he cannot understand, and, above all, instructing him in the performance and rationale of the various processes which he is supposed to be familiar with. If a man cannot reach up to this, or has not some person in his employment to whom he may delegate the duty, he should not take apprentices. He is accepting their fees under false pretences, and is criminally wasting the most precious years of the youth's life, which can never be subsequently compensated for. I have perhaps made a rather long digression, but it is because I feel that the future of pharmacy in this country, as indeed in every other, depends upon the manner in which the apprentices are trained. If they are all well instructed, and taught to use their powers of observation and of reasoning to the fullest, pharmacy will gain and retain the respect of the medical profession and of the public; but if, on the other hand, they are allowed to go carelessly through their four years merely putting in their time at it, when they in turn become proprietors and wasters of subsequent apprentices, I need not paint for you the state into which our art would then be dragged. I wish, however, to emphasise one important point, and that is that one ignorant or careless pharmacist does irreparable damage, not alone to his own business, but to pharmacy in general, by forfeiting the confidence of medical men, and driving them still more to order the made-up proprietaries of the manufacturing firms, with the further humiliating directions that the medicaments be dispensed in the original packages or bottles as a safeguard against the stupidity or dishonesty of those whom they should trust as their faithful and conscientious allies.

THE REGISTERS.

The members on our Register show a steady increase in all classes, except, of course, that of the chemists and druggists. The latter were reduced by the deaths of 6 from 212 last year to 206. The pharmaceutical chemists increased by 27 from 749 last year to 776 this year, the registered druggists by 17 from 542 to 559, and the pharmaceutical assistants by 9 from 92 to 101. These three classes combined gave an increase of 53, which, allowing for

the decrease of 6 chemists and druggists, gives a net increase for the year of 47, and the total number registered stands now at 1,642.

I am very pleased to be able to report a substantial increase in the membership of our Society. The members have increased by 33 from 260 to 293. Still more gratifying is it to record that the associate druggists have increased from 28 to 40, an increase of over 40 per cent. Last year I had to report a decrease, and for several years back the members showed a falling-off. I sincerely hope that we have reached the turning-point, and that many more registered druggists and chemists and druggists will rally to the support of the Society, which has their interests at heart just as much as those of the pharmaceutical chemists. There have been prejudices and misunderstandings. It is not, I trust, too much to hope that they are fading away, and will before long be forgotten in honest efforts for our common good. The total of members and associate druggists is now 333, compared with 288 last year. This figure still leaves much to be desired when it is remembered that if everyone were loyal to the Society by supporting it who is qualified to do so the number would not be 333, but 1,541. The death-roll includes five of our members: John Thomas Chamberlain, M.P.S.I.; Barnard Joseph Coyle, M.P.S.I., L.A.H.I.; Hugh Harrison, M.P.S.I.; Thomas George O'Sullivan, M.P.S.I., L.A.H.I.; and George Robinson, M.P.S.I. Most of these were cut off in the prime of their manhood, and would have been considered likely to have adorned our Society, and probably our Council, for many years to come, but it was ordained otherwise. Will you bear with me if I mention the name of one whom death has also claimed, and who was not a member but a licensee, but whose devotion to his profession was ideal, and who was personally known to many here to-night? I refer to my brother, Thomas John Walsh, L.P.S.I., L.R.C.P. and S.Ed.

THE SCHOOLS.

In our Chemistry School we have 21 students this year, 20 last year; in the Materia Medica and Botany School 33 this year, 48 last year. For the first time since the opening of the Materia Medica and Botany School there was no spring session, due to the fact that only two students entered for it, and on learning that there were no others they elected to wait for the summer session. For this reason there were only two School examinations held, at which the prizes were awarded as follows:

Materia Medica.—Miss Annie Ethel Roberts (now M.P.S.I.) first prize (76 per cent.) at one examination, Mr. William Joseph Moloney first prize (70 per cent.) at another.

Botany.—Miss Annie Ethel Roberts first prize (78 per cent.). At the subsequent examination Mr. John O'Connell Lane (now Ph.C.) first prize (71½ per cent.); Mr. David Gray (now Ph.C.) second prize (71 per cent.).

The Chemistry School continues to be conducted by Professor Kelly, M.P.S.I., F.C.S.; the Materia Medica and Botany School by Professor Ashe, M.P.S.I., L.R.C.P. & S.I., and Professor Laird, B.A.

During the summer session, while Professor Ashe was absent on an eventful leave, the materia medica class was conducted by Mr. A. A. Bruncker, M.P.S.I.

On the suggestion of Professor Ashe, the Council issued a recommendation to students to take out the course of chemistry before commencing the course of materia medica and botany; so that they may more intelligently follow the chemical processes involved in the manufacture and testing of the chemicals of the Pharmacopœia. Possibly the following of this recommendation may have had the effect of lessening the attendance of these classes. The falling-off would, therefore, be but temporary.

Professor Kelly has signified his willingness to conduct a chemistry class in the daytime in addition to the evening classes. This would be convenient for a number of students who come up to town specially for their lectures, and would enable them to grind and study in the evenings, while attending lectures in the daytime, and thus shorten the time they have to spend in the city. I believe that this concession would materially increase the members attending our Chemistry School, as at present many students take out their lectures elsewhere simply because they find the present hours interfere with their grinders' classes, and necessitate one session being spent at lectures

and another at the grind. I trust the Council will take this matter up speedily, and grant the facilities which I understand Professor Kelly is only too anxious to put into practice for the benefit and convenience of the students.

THE LAW COMMITTEE,

as usual, has not been idle during the year. The first case of importance was the Dingle case. It having been reported that a limited company in Dingle, co. Kerry, was selling Kay's Essence, and refused to give up doing so, under promise of support from the manufacturers, the committee felt it had no option but to recommend a prosecution, although it was foreseen that it would be a matter of great expense, from the distance of the venue and the number of expert witnesses it was necessary to send down. Fines amounting to 10*l.* 2*s.* were imposed, but upon the usual application having been made, the Castle authorities reduced the fines to 1*l.* 2*s.*, notwithstanding the fact that they were made aware that the fines were really being paid by the English firm, and that there was no hardship whatever inflicted upon the local trader. Two cases arose through a misconception of the powers conferred by the Apothecaries' Assistant certificate. In each of these the action of the committee had the desired effect. Among several other cases which occupied the attention of the committee, the three following may be mentioned as illustrating the variety of phases under which the Pharmacy Laws are attempted to be evaded:

1. The wife of a qualified man opened a shop in an adjacent village.
2. A qualified man opened a branch shop a few miles distant without a qualified manager.
3. The name of a qualified man was given as manager of a shop, he at the time carrying on business in another town thirty miles distant. In these and many other cases the steps taken by the Law Committee were successful.

While on the subject of prosecutions, I wish to direct your attention to the recent cases in London, where fines were imposed for non-compliance with the Pharmacy Act in the sale of tabloids of Easton's Syrups. These cases serve as rather strong reminders to pharmacists that strychnine, arsenic, and such poisons, no matter how attractively put up, still remain poisons, and as such must be treated with due respect to the schedule of poisons. In the next recent case the defendant was fined for not having his name and address on the bottle, for having sold the tabloids without personally knowing the purchaser or having him introduced by an acquaintance; and thirdly for not making an entry of the sale in the Poison Register and getting it signed by the purchaser. If this sale had been made in Ireland it would not have been necessary to perform all these conditions, because here "Preparations of Strychnine" are especially mentioned in the second part of the Poisons Schedule, and, therefore, in order to comply with the law, it would be only necessary to have the name and address of the seller as well as the word "Poison" on the bottle. While this is true of Easton's Syrup Tabloids, we must not forget that such tabloids as those of "Blaud's Pill and Arsenic," "Iron and Arsenic compound," or others containing poisons mentioned in the first part of the Poisons Schedule, must be entered in the Poison Register, and all the other conditions complied with. This is an obligation upon all qualified poison sellers, and we, members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, should take every care to be irreproachable as to the manner in which we carry out the provisions of the poisons regulations.

THE POISONS AND PHARMACY BILL

which, as you are aware, was again before Parliament during the past Session, continued to be vigilantly watched. We are under a debt of gratitude again to the editors of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST and of the "British and Colonial Druggist" for the manner in which they kept us posted with regard to the progress of the Bill. We did not find it necessary to go to the same amount of expense as last year in opposing the Bill: indeed, our expenses in this respect were almost *nil*. Still, we feel we may take a good deal of the credit to ourselves for its slaughter, as it was withdrawn by the Prime Minister in deference to "much opposition from certain quarters."

THE EXAMINERS

of the Preliminary, Pharmaceutical Licence, and Registered Druggists remain unchanged, but we have a new examiner in the person of Mr. Fawcett Maxwell, M.P.S.I., who was appointed to conduct the Assistants' examination in the room of Mr. Henry O'Connor, M.P.S.I., whose term of five years had expired. Since I addressed you last year a copy of the report of the Government Visitor, Sir John William Moore, M.D., for the previous year was placed before your Council, and was a testimony to the ability and fairness with which the examinations were carried out. I am quite sure that when the report for this year is presented, Sir John will testify to the continuance of the same admirable qualities in our examiners.

And now a word as to our Registrar. What words shall I find to adequately describe his amiable qualities, his untiring zeal in the interests of the Society, his correctness and punctuality in his secretarial work? I look upon him as the hinge upon which the whole Society hangs, the central constellation around which all the events of the pharmaceutical year revolve, with the unerring accuracy of a solar system. My office has been reduced almost to a sinecure by his mature experience in the matters that arise in the routine of the office and the tact with which he knows how to treat every situation. I heartily wish my successors in the chair that they may have his helpful aid for very many years to come.

In fine, I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to my colleagues on the Council for the valuable assistance they have given me during my two years' occupancy in the chair. If I have succeeded in leaving the Society in the high state of efficiency in which it was when trusted to me two years ago, I feel that my time has not been wasted, and in handing it on at the next Council meeting to my successor, if I can feel that it has not suffered in any way through my inexperience and want of ability, I shall have my reward. (Applause.)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The VICE-PRESIDENT, in the absence of the Hon. Treasurer, submitted the financial statement for the year, which he said was very encouraging. The balance from 1906 was 232*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.*, and during the year they had invested 200*l.* The re-examination fee had been raised from 31*s.* 6*d.* to 2*l.* 2*s.*, the old fees having resulted in a loss to the Society. There had been a slight increase of income from dividend on stock and from the Chemistry, Botany, and Materia Medica Schools. Law expenses were 43*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*, as against 113*l.* 10*s.* last year; but, on the other hand, last year they had to change their solicitor, which entailed a settlement of accounts, while the law expenses of the present year were not paid up to date. The bank stock to the credit of the Society amounted on September 30 to 1,440*l.* 19*s.* 2*d.*

Mr. SMITH also submitted accounts relating to the schools.

Mr. FAWCETT MAXWELL moved the adoption of the accounts, and Mr. BRUNKER seconded.

The PRESIDENT, in putting the motion, said that this year they had a balance from the Chemistry School of 25*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, as against 9*l.* 2*s.* 5*d.*, and a balance from the Botany and Materia Medica School of 38*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*

The motion was agreed to *nem. con.*

The PRESIDENT said he had hoped to be able to present the gold medal to Mr. Michael Carroll, whose merits stood so high; but as that gentleman was unable to be present, the medal would be sent to him.

APPRENTICESHIP AND OTHER MATTERS.

Mr. O'FARRELL deprecated a practice which he said was growing in the country of accepting apprentices for a shorter term than four years. There ought to be some rule on the subject. Would it be possible to have a conference of members, to last two or three nights, at which matters of business, including the prescribing by medical men of patent medicines, could be discussed, and at which the doctors might be present? (Applause.)

Mr. COSGRAVE said they ought to have more meetings of members during the year.

The PRESIDENT said there were two sides to the question of fixing apprenticeship at four years. It would be manifestly better for the student to be under the one master for

the four years, provided that the master took an interest in him and taught him, and that the business afforded adequate opportunities for leaving. But if the place was a small one, and the master spent the greater part of the day in coursing and fishing, it would be better for the apprentice to spend the balance of the four years as an assistant in some place where he could learn. Sometimes it was advisable for a man to pass under several masters, and what he failed to learn from one he learned from another, besides acquiring a variety of experience. If a man took apprentices he was bound to teach them; but if a man who had served two and a half or three years as an apprentice came as an assistant, one hesitated to teach him, because he might say that he was not an apprentice but an assistant. In some cases it would be a great hardship to expect a man to spend the whole four years without any remuneration; and when they considered that the tendency, especially on the other side, was not to require apprenticeship so much as to go in for scientific training, it would be a hardship to insist that the four years should be spent with the one man. With regard to more frequent conferences of members, when it was difficult to get them to attend once a year, was it likely that they would attend conferences every two or three months? They had evening meetings open to all the members and licentiates, and Mr. Wells would tell them that on one occasion, when they had a celebrated lecturer, there was an attendance of only three.

Mr. WELLS: Two, the chairman and another.

The PRESIDENT said that some years ago they had in the city a Chemists' Federation, of which he was president. They were supposed to meet once a month, but after a series of meetings, at which he and the hon. secretary were the only two persons present, they thought there was no use in asking members to come to them. His experience on this subject was similar to that of his predecessors—namely, that those evening meetings had failed ignominiously, and the question was whether, if anything of a similar character should be tried again, it would not meet with a similar fate. A question had been raised with regard to some prescriptions which they had been recently asked to compound, but he did not see that it would be at all *infra dig.* for them to do so.

Mr. O'FARRELL said he did not suggest monthly meetings, but an annual conference with, perhaps, refreshments—a light tea. (Laughter.)

Dr. MCWALTER said that in England an effort was being made to get the Universities to give degrees in pharmacy, and he thought that a similar effort should be made in Ireland. He believed that the Universities would give them if a sufficient number of candidates could be got to come up for them. With regard to the examinations of the Institute of Chemistry and scientific chemistry generally, they knew that some years ago it was customary for a man to take pharmacy on his way to medicine; and it was only fair to say that in that way they got a better educated class of men going in for pharmacy than was obtained in England. That was now rather going out of fashion; and the question was whether they should not try to get their students to become scientific chemists. The qualification necessary to make a man an analytical chemist had been recently defined. He must be an associate of the Institute of Chemistry. That body belonged to Great Britain and Ireland; but it did not recognise the Preliminary examination of that Society. He thought they should try to induce the Institute of Chemistry to give the licentiates of the Society some credit for the work they could show proof that they had done. It would be desirable, too, to endeavour to get the Veterinary College to recognise their Preliminary examination. Comparatively few posts were open in Ireland for analytical or scientific chemists, and men would not cram in those departments unless they saw some way of earning their bread. The Society should, therefore, try to get the Institute of Chemistry to give some credit to its licentiates for their undoubted practical attainments. (Applause.)

The PRESIDENT: We all agree with Dr. McWalter's remarks. Our Preliminary examination is up to the standard of those of a great many other bodies, and I believe it is conceded that pharmaceutical chemists make the best analytical chemists and examiners of food and drugs.

Mr. WELLS said the Council tried to get the Veterinary

College to recognise their Preliminary examination, but the College would not do it. They had also tried to get other bodies to do so, but they all fought shy of it. It was quite as good as that of the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons. In fact, they had had an examiner who had been also an examiner for the College of Surgeons, and he told him (Mr. Wells) that he considered the Society's Preliminary examination a better one than that of the College of Surgeons. As to additional meetings, there would be no use in having them unless it could be shown that the members would come to them. They had an annual dinner at one time, with the result that the members of the Council were a good deal out of pocket in connection with it. In England the Society had a splendid annual dinner, at which members of Parliament attended.

The meeting then terminated.

Pharmaceutical Examinations.

WE have received from the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain the following lists of persons who passed the Minor examination at the October meetings of the Boards of Examiners, and received certificates for registration as chemists and druggists:

LONDON.

Adams, Thomas W., Coleford.	Highton, Janet E. A., London.
Arnott, Wm. J., London.	Hill, Edgar, Bradford.
Ashworth, Tom, Todmorden.	Hill, George H. G., Battersea.
Baldry, G. E., Windermere.	Holdsorth, H. S., Lincoln.
Ball, James R., Witney.	Holliday, Fred, Goole.
Barley, Percy, Thirsk.	Keeling, William, Walsall.
Bayne, J. W., New Malden.	Knight, F. G., Winchester.
Bell, Sydney, Brigg.	Latimer, Edward J., Herne Bay.
Bennett, T. L., Stockport.	Lindley, L. S., Stoke-on-Trent.
Brown, H. I. P., Cockermouth.	MacDiarmid, Margaret A., Forres.
Bush, E. P. D., Melksham.	Matthew, Arthur, Rochdale.
Clark, William S., Louth.	Needham, Leonard, Stalybridge.
Clarke, Frank E. S., Formby.	Oldham, Harold P., Towcester.
Collins, C. Wm., Dorking.	Owen, Ivor, Birkenhead.
Colthurst, H. S., Clapham.	Parsons, Harry E., Woking.
Crummack, G. C., Doncaster.	Peake, Alexander S., Barnet.
Dean, Arthur A., Warwick.	Pickering, Thomas, Oldham.
Denham, John, Brighouse.	Plaut, H., Cassel, Germany.
Endicott, W. B., Wood Green.	Pratt, Herbert William, London.
Evans, W. M., Laugharne.	Shaw, Richard Garfield, Leeds.
Gibbons, Charles, Brixton.	Talbot, Catherine A., London.
Gibson, Algernon S., Brigg.	Taylor, L. H., Coggeshall.
Green, Horace G., Acton.	Teale, Wilfred W., Holgate.
Hall, Arthur B., Kirkham.	Thomas, F. H., Grange-over-Sands.
Hay, Thomas H., Lockerbie.	Turner, John Wm., London.
Hayes, George W., Leeds.	Wearing, John, Kingsland.
Hewitt, John B., Tottenham.	Welch, P. W., Heaton Moor.

EDINBURGH.

Abernethy, James, Edinburgh.	Parker, Thomas Pearson, York.
Aitken, James Baird, Saltcoats.	Paterson, William, Edinburgh.
Amos, Agnes S., Haddington.	Pirie, Robert Corsane, Arbroath.
Archer, Thomas David, Alnwick.	Proctor, W. S., Manchester.
Bennett, Charles, Wakefield.	Rae, John Spence, Sunderland.
Booth, Edgar, Bradford.	Scott, G., Barnston, Cheshire.
Brander, Bruce McDonald, Banff.	Smith, John, Aberdeen.
Geddes, W., Portknockie, Banffs.	Taylor, Hector, Aberdeen.
Girdwood, Thomas, Edinburgh.	Temple, William, Galashiels.
Hart, James M., Campbeltown.	Walker, Elizabeth H., Glasgow.
Hastings, William F., Forfar.	Walker, George Wright, Banff.
Johnston, Thomas G., Glasgow.	Wait, Alexander, Bathgate.
Latham, David P., Bradford.	

MEDICAL TREATMENT IN CHINA.—A recent number of the "Apotheker Zeit." gives an interesting extract from the letter of a doctor in Hong-Kong, who appears to be not very favourably impressed with the Chinese methods of doctoring and preparing medicines. "Some of the Chinese methods of healing," he says, "are anything but pleasant, and the knowledge displayed is of the slightest. They don't even understand the circulation of the blood. The native pharmacist too is a first-class quack. The art of pharmacy in China consists only in the preparation of medicines, various properties being attributed to buds, flowers, leaves, and roots according to the time of gathering. Chinese pharmacies, however, make rather a good impression; the counters are placed to the right and left of the entrance, and customers are confronted by carefully arranged rows of porcelain pots, marble or granite mortars, crucibles, etc. The dispenser has a place near the door, and examines all the prescriptions before having them made up by his assistants. He then reckons up the price, even of liquid medicines, by weight, since he has no measure for liquids. When writing the prescription the doctor very often does not indicate the weight, but the price of the ingredients."

Personalities.

MR. T. O. QUIBELL, of Quibell Bros., chemical manufacturers, is to be the new Mayor of Newark-on-Trent.

MR. F. H. CARMAN, of Paarl, Cape Colony, who has been in England on a visit, sails for South Africa on October 12 by the s.s. *Briton*.

MR. GEORGE GROVE BLACKWELL, chairman of George G. Blackwell, Sons & Co., Ltd., of Liverpool, has been made an Officer of the Royal Order of the Redeemer by the King of Greece.

MR. C. W. WINTER, J.P., chemist and druggist, formerly of Bethnal Green Road, London, N.E., and now of West-cliff-on-Sea, has asked to be allowed to withdraw his name from the list of acting justices owing to impaired health.

MR. GLYN-JONES has directed his energies for the moment to the question of the tram fares charged by the Metropolitan Electric Tramways, Ltd., on the route from Wood Green to Winchmore Hill, the neighbourhood in which he resides. He contends that the company is charging fares in excess of their powers, and Mr. E. Linstead, who is Secretary of the Winchmore Hill division of the Ratepayers' Association, has written to tell them so, and also to ask for a service of workmen's cars. Negotiations are going on between the Association and the company; meanwhile Mr. Glyn-Jones has been thanked by the Association.

In January 1903 we reported that Mr. Edwin Arthur Holloway, chemist and druggist, West Dulwich, had a private meeting of his creditors, when he submitted a statement showing liabilities 1,132*l.* and assets 250*l.*, and offered composition of 6*s.* 8*d.* in the pound. This arrangement was ratified by deed on January 24, 1903. The composition was duly paid, and we learn that during the past ten days Mr. Holloway has voluntarily paid the balance of 13*s.* 4*d.* in the pound, a circumstance which has brought from his business houses many flattering letters of congratulation and thanks. Two years ago Mr. Holloway acquired the business at Southend-on-Sea, which he had been managing since 1903, and the first 500*l.* he has been able to lay aside has been devoted to the discharge of what he considered a moral obligation. We mention the matter not only as indicative of honourable feeling on the part of a chemist, but as evidence that the retail drug trade is by no means played out. Mr. Holloway's shop is not far from one of Boots, Ltd., and he has to meet their prices.

Marriages.

DEVITT—LIVINGSTONE.—On September 10, at St. George's Cathedral, Madras, by the Rev. Canon A. H. B. Brittain, M.A., assisted by the Rev. J. J. D. Borlase, LL.D., Cuthbert Leslie Devitt, second son of Mr. Andrew Devitt, of Crawley, Sussex, and of Messrs. Lewis & Peat, 6 Mincing Lane, E.C., to May Hood, eldest daughter of Mr. Duncan Livingstone, of Gawler, South Australia.

JOHNSON—BARKER.—At Spalding Wesleyan Church on October 3, Martin W. Johnson, chemist, Church Street, Woodbridge, to Annie Mabel, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Barker, of Spalding.

MACLEAN—DEVITT.—At St. Margaret's Church, Ifield, Crawley, Sussex, on October 2, by the Rev. Percy Thompson, vicar of Kippington, Sevenoaks, assisted by the Rev. J. Stuart Holden, vicar of St. Paul, Portman Square, and by the Rev. Walter Loveband, vicar of Ifield, Donald Maclean, M.P., to Gwendolen Margaret, eldest daughter of Mr. Andrew Devitt, J.P., of Woldhurstlea, Crawley, Sussex, and of Messrs. Lewis & Peat, 6 Mincing Lane, E.C.

NESS—JONES.—At St. Paul's Church, Sale, Cheshire, on September 30, by the Rev. J. Page, William Adams Ness, chemist, Aberdeen, to Lila, eldest daughter of the late Luther Jones, Crewe.

WHITLA—LEE.—At St. Mark's Church, Portadown, recently, James Alexander Whitla, pharmaceutical chemist, youngest son of the late Mr. James Whitla, L.A.H., of Monaghan, to Daisy, youngest daughter of Mr. James Lee, Portadown.

SILVER WEDDING.

JONES—MANN.—At St. Augustine's Church, Highbury, London, N., on October 10, 1882, by the Rev. Gordon Calthorp, M.A., Edmund Jones, chemist and druggist, Hanley, to Louie Montague, only daughter of the late Mr. T. Montague Mann.

Recent Wills.

MR. GEORGE SAMUEL GUTHARD WEBSTER, chemist, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, who died August 27, left estate valued at 3,148*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* gross, with net personality nil.

MR. ERNEST KENYON, of Messrs. Ernest Kenyon & Co., 94 Market Street, Manchester, gum and indigo merchants, who died intestate on August 31 last, aged forty-eight years, left estate of the gross value of 12,196*l.* 5*s.*, of which 6,680*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.* is net personality.

MR. GEORGE DRINKWATER, chemist and druggist, Patricroft, Eccles, Lancs, who died on July 2, aged seventy-six years, left estate of the gross value of 7,356*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*, of which the net personality has been sworn at 5,134*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.* Probate of his will, dated May 5, 1906, has been granted to his widow, Mrs. Mary Caroline Drinkwater, his daughter, Miss Mary Caroline Drinkwater, and his son, Mr. Weston Drinkwater, chemist and druggist, who are the beneficiaries under the will, his son getting the business and premises, 200*l.*, and certain personal effects, as well as a share in the ultimate residue of the property.

New Remedies.

Jatrevine is a condensation product of menthol and isobutyl-phenol. It is recommended in cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Aniso-theobromine is a combination of sodium-theobromine and sodium anisate. It is a good antiseptic and antipyretic.

Hydrocafeine.—This is a derivative of caffeine identical with trimethyluric acid (1.3.7), in combination with sodium benzoate, and occurs in needle-shaped crystals which sublime at 345° C. The chemical is easily soluble in water, but difficult of solution in alcohol, ether, and chloroform. It is recommended as a diuretic, 0.5 gram of hydrocafeine being dissolved in 10 c.c. of 5-per-cent. solution of sodium benzoate.

Fibrolysin.—By injections of fibrolysin Dr. A. Castellani Director of the Clinic for Tropical Diseases at Colombo (Ceylon), has obtained some remarkable results in the treatment of elephantiasis. In one case the measurement of the ankle dropped from 23½ in. to 9 in. after sixty-two injections. Two months after the last injection the circumference of the ankle had only increased by half an inch. Fibrolysin (Merck) is soluble compound of thiosiamine with sodium salicylate.

Thiodin.—This is the trade name of a new organic compound of iodine—namely, ethyl iodide with thiosiamine—which contains 46 per cent. of iodine. It is easily soluble in water, more difficult of solution in alcohol. In doses up to 2 grains it is well supported, but doses of 10 grains produce symptoms of intoxication and vertigo. It is stated in "Therap. Monats." to be of value in tabes and in nervous diseases, especially when accompanied by gastric disturbance. It acts as a diuretic and appetiser in doses of 1½ grain in pill twice a day, or by subcutaneous injection of 15 minims of 10-per-cent. solution.

Calcium Iodide is a sufficiently recent remedy to deserve mention here. Dr. Rutter Williamson ("B.M.J.," 1907, 909) considers it a very real addition to our armamentarium for promoting healing of skin surfaces. It seems to act in both young and old subjects and to maintain its stimulating effect upon growth until healing is completed. The dose needs to be larger than that recommended in the books (½ to 2 grains). He found 4 to 8 grains in water three times a day better than smaller doses. It should be stored in small (½-oz.) bottles of coloured glass, and preferably glass-stoppered. It deteriorates quickly when opened, and seems to vary in quality considerably. It should be dispensed in coloured bottles or bottles covered with brown paper.

Sulphoid.—Under this name von Heyden have introduced a colloidal form of sulphur prepared according to a patented process in which precipitated sulphur is made in the presence of a colloidal body such as albumen, the mixture being kept constantly agitated during precipitation. Sulphoid is a greyish-white powder, containing 80 per cent. of sulphur and 20 per cent. of albumen. It is insoluble in alcohol, ether, acetone, and the like, also in concentrated sodium chloride solution, but is stated to be soluble in normal saline solution, the solution being precipitated by acids. It is marketed in the form of soap, head pomade, and ointment, each containing 10 per cent. of sulphoid.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

Professor Meldola's Ideas

on pharmacy would have been happy and accurate in the days when Rhazes taught and Avicenna wrote. Among the Arabs a thousand years ago pharmacy was the neutral ground on which Jews and Christians and Mohammedans met, and from whence developed chemistry, therapeutics, and other arts and sciences. The Arab pharmacists kept open shops, but probably no one of them was a tradesman in our sense. The concoction of medicines from the herbs and minerals of the earth was a sacred art; its secrets had been surreptitiously extracted from the priests of Isis and from the Esculapian temples; it was necessary to know all about the influences of the planets on medicines so as to gather the herbs and prepare them for administration at the proper times; there were spirits in the chemical substances employed which had to be understood; the spirit of wine, the spirit of salt, the spirit of nitre, were very real entities to the Arabs. Moreover, their own teachers had devised many panaceas, and had progressed a good way towards the discovery of the great elixir of life, the ultimate aim of medical studies. Necessarily, therefore,

The Curriculum at Bagdad

was already very long, very complicated, and very useless, but if Professor Meldola had urged on the faculty there the adoption of a few additional subjects, the proposal would have been assured, no doubt, of a sympathetic reception. Even his argument in favour of teaching chemists and druggists physiology would have alarmed nobody, for the practices of medicine and pharmacy were hardly differentiated in the reign of Haroun Alraschid. The gentleman who coached Professor Meldola evidently omitted to explain to him the jealousy which would make it impossible to provide that the pharmaceutical certificate here should cover a subject so closely related to medicine as physiology. The Professor would perhaps be surprised to learn that when the scope of the examination was fixed by Parliament in 1852, even toxicology had to be deleted from the clause first drafted in deference to the objections of the militant section of the medical profession. It cannot be denied that like everything else not absolutely fossilised,

Pharmacy is Evolving,

and Professor Meldola skilfully appeals to such little science as we possess to admit that "survival under evolution means power of adaptation to changing conditions." Having got us to that point, he asks in effect whether we desire to evolve upwards or downwards. The orthodox goal to aspire to, as we all know, is the University standard. But to advocate that as the statutory requirement would make us ridiculous. Who would dare to commence business with a brass plate facing the street inscribed "X. Y. Z., Doctor of Pharmacy"? It would be a bold member of the public who would venture to disturb Mr. X. Y. Z.'s dignity by offering him sixpence in exchange for a tooth-brush. It is extremely interesting to get these addresses from eminent and sympathetic representatives of neighbouring professions, and their "academic incursions" into our territory are cheering and helpful. But their criticism of our position is rightly tempered to our appreciation by our better knowledge of the circumstances. On time-table evidence it looks as if our training was a long way behind Continental standards; but it has to be remembered that we only have an examination at all

as a guarantee to Government that the person certificated thereby can be safely trusted to fulfil certain responsible duties. High scientific qualification is not essential for this guarantee, but there is nothing to hinder British pharmacists from climbing as much higher as they like, and the C. & D. claim that they have shown and do show by their work that they are equal to the far more curriculumised products of other nations, can be easily substantiated.

Emulsient

is a word suggested by Mr. D. B. Dott as a substitute for the roundabout expression "emulsifying agent" or for the uncouth "emulsifier," and it is a term which deserves to survive. It follows precedent and is unambiguous. Emulgent would perhaps be the more strictly correct formation (from *emulgere*), but that word has already been appropriated by anatomists to veins or vessels which draw or milk out serums or urine from the blood, and it has been also applied to drugs which excite the flow of the bile. Emulsient has not been used in any other sense, and it only competes with admittedly unsatisfactory rivals.

The Thistle Message

to the Pharmaceutical Council probably gave pleasure to those who devised it, and it is hardly conceivable that it could have given offence to those who received it. As an argument it may be admitted to be insufficient. If the Council has indeed been plotting a subtle attack on Scotland's liberty, it is right that it should be reminded of the national motto; but to those of us who have never thought of coveting anything that is Scotland's, and who do not even protest against Scotland's encroachments on our territory, which assuredly add to the severity of our conditions of success, the exhibition of the mailed fist is only regarded as "pretty Fanny's way." The editorial explanation of the *casus belli* last week was useful to those, like myself, if there were others, who had shirked the task of exploring the motives and designs and verbiage of the new by-laws; and the only complaint we can make against the article is that it was so impartially expressed that we still do not know on which side to enrol ourselves if the dispute should spread. Evidently, however, there is, as we often hear, "a principle involved," and if the exaggerated softness of the velvet of Mr. Cowie's glove may be taken as indicative of the temper of the steel beneath, the battle is to be a stern one.

The late Mr. Condy,

by associating his name with a chemical fluid which has acquired great popularity for the purpose to which he adapted it, attained a living and posthumous fame exceeding in extent that which many of our most patient discoverers and scientists have achieved by the labours of a lifetime. We can understand why the alchemists called the manganate of potassium the chameleon mineral, but investigators five or ten centuries hence may find it difficult to explain the etymological steps which they may assume changed that designation into what may then be the familiar but inexplicable one of "Condy." The chemical compounds which have been distinguished by personal names have been almost all introduced for medical purposes. Goulard, Mindererus, Fowler, Seignette, and Scheele are instances. In old times Olympian names were invoked—Mars, Luna, Saturn, and Mercury being prominent examples. Now we generally torture Greek and Latin syllables and sometimes produce very creditable combinations out of these suitable for most languages; but, after all, a name which perpetuates the memory of the man who made the substance available has a good reason for existence.

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 "Sanitas Formic Lamps,"
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Editorial Comments.

The Father of British Pharmacy.

WHEN men are gathered in, like sheaves of golden corn—ripe in age, in experience, and in accomplishment, mourning savours of insincerity, but in the case of Alexander Bottle we know there are not a few who mourn his death at the great age of ninety-one. For he was a lovable man. His humour and vitality revealed to men half his age a higher expression of the joy of living; and when one earned the privilege of personal intimacy with him, one discovered the real depths of a sympathetic nature and width of knowledge of men and affairs such as are rare in pharmacy. We refer to Mr. Bottle as the Father of British Pharmacy, for in age, in connection with pharmacy, and in official work Mr. Bottle stood alone among British pharmacists—ahead of all. Without the facts of his career before one, it has always been difficult to realise that Mr. Bottle's connection with pharmacy began a decade before the Pharmaceutical Society was founded. He was born in Dover in 1817, and was apprenticed to John Knowles, a Sandwich druggist, for the period of seven years. Then he came to London in order to study science and medicine, first in King's College, and later at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Chemistry he delighted in then as afterwards, and while in London he entered for the examination of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, then presided over by Sir Astley Cooper. This was in 1839, and Mr. Bottle got his diploma, which was signed by the Chairman and, among others, J. A. Paris (author of "Pharmacologia") and Richard Bright, whose name has been given to one of the most insidious diseases that afflict man. Mr. Bottle was proud of his M.R.C.V.S., and was not without distinction in medical matters, for one of his publications was on the formation, structure, and diseases of bone. In his twenty-fourth year Mr. Bottle returned to Dover and commenced business as a chemist in Townwall Street. It was in a small way, but as years went by he enlarged and improved the pharmacy, which is still one of the neatest on the South Coast. It has been a notable training-ground, and among Mr. Bottle's old apprentices are Mr. J. F. Brown and Mr. William Warren. Soon after the Pharmaceutical Society was founded Mr. Bottle became a member of it. This was in 1842. By that time he had become known to his fellow-townsmen on account of his scientific proclivities; he helped Mr. E. P. Thompson in the foundation of the Dover Museum; took part in a popular science movement in the 'forties, and

the sanitation and lighting of the town received his special attention. In 1846 a lecture he delivered on gas supply helped to revolutionise the town process, and saved the citizens a lot of money. Ten years later he did equally good service in leading an agitation for sanitary reform, in which he was successful. Later on he took an active part in municipal work, and was elected an alderman in 1877, and filled the mayoral chair the following year. What Mr. Bottle might have done if he had applied his scientific knowledge to pharmaceutical research we can only conjecture, for with the exception of a note on the preparation of grey powder communicated to an evening meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society in 1876, he appears not to have published anything in this department. His services to his craft were on the administrative side. In 1858 he became a member of the Pharmaceutical Council during Jacob Bell's presidency, and remained a member of it continuously until he was unseated in 1899—the year in which Mr. Glyn-Jones was returned. Mr. Bottle was Vice-President from 1873 to 1876, while Thomas Hyde Hills was President, and again for four years, 1888-1892, during Mr. Carteighe's presidency. This record of service is unique, and probably may never be equalled, for it will be noted that Mr. Bottle joined the Council when he was forty-one, and remained on it exactly forty-one years. His fellow-councillors showed their respect for him in 1891 by getting his portrait painted for the Council Chamber. This marked the jubilee of his career in pharmacy, which also his *confrères* in Dover had signalised the year before. While at the Council table he rarely made speeches, but there was no one quicker to pick out a slip or to seek pause when a question of policy was involved. His sentence or two, spoken quietly but weightily, were as effective as a lengthy speech, and his experience, dating back to the administration of the founder of the Society, was of the greatest value to his colleagues.

Irish Medicine Contracts.

ONE item which was lacking at the meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference held in Manchester this year was the report of Mr. J. E. Brunker, M.A., Advising Pharmacist to the Irish Local Government Board, in regard to the medicines supplied at the various dispensaries and workhouses in Ireland during 1906-7. The omission is now made good in the annual report of the Board, published this week. The total number of samples of medicines examined by the analysts during the year 1906 was 9,162, and Mr. Brunker states that only 224 of these were unfavourably reported upon by the analysts, this being practically the same percentage as in 1905 (2.44 against 2.43); but there was a decided falling-off in the quality of the drugs examined during the first half of the year. This, however, was made good in the second half, and Mr. Brunker states that the average results were of a very satisfactory character. The medicines unfavourably reported upon comprise four acids, three chemical salts, thirty-one liquors, seventeen liquid extracts, twenty-six liniments, eighteen mixtures, fourteen oils and ointments, seven of which were oil of turpentine adulterated with shale oil, one pill, one powder, fourteen spirits, thirty-two syrups, seventy-one tinctures, four wines, and ten were sundry articles. It is interesting to observe that out of 185 samples of spirit of nitrous ether only nine were defective, and of sixty-nine samples of pepsin and glycerin of pepsin only five were deficient in digestive power. The tables which Mr. Brunker has for several years communicated in advance to the British Pharmaceutical Conference are appended to his

report. The net results are that out of 2,653 samples of tinctures seventy-one were "defective" (thirty-four in extractive, twenty-four in alkaloids or chemical constituents, and thirteen in alcohol); of 308 liquors fourteen were "defective" (seven each in extractive and alcohol); and of liquid extracts 364 were examined and seventeen were "defective" (ten in alcohol and seven in extractive). The "defective" character of tinctures of iron perchloride and nux vomica meant excess. In the case of the articles that passed the percentages of ingredients were in most cases above the Local Government Board minimum standards. Mr. Brunker states that medical officers have improved in the selection of samples sent for analysis, but he thinks that samples are frequently sent of, which an experienced physician can form as sound an opinion as any analyst, and which afford no scope for chemical analysis; for example, medicated waters, pills, and ointment. Also there is a run on drugs which are hardly ever found to be defective. Thus 432 samples of compound tincture of camphor and 314 of ipecacuanha wine were sent in during the year, and only two of the tinctures and four of the wines were condemned. The supervision exercised by Mr. Brunker is decidedly advantageous to all who are concerned in the supply of medicines to the Poor-law institutions, and must be serviceable to the Local Government Board, whose expenditure in this department for the year ending September 1906 was 27,658*l.*, an increase of 56*l.* over the previous year. The lists of medicines and surgical instruments which are tendered for are printed in the report, and we may recall the fact that prescribed prices are given therein, the contractors quoting discounts off these prices. We note that the prices are rarely lower than the current wholesale quotations. Last year the contractors quoted on an average 30½ per cent. discount off medicines. There are 159 contracts for these, and the rates of discounts range from 22½ per cent. to 37½ per cent., but seventy-five of them are done at discounts of 30½ per cent. and over. Last year we gave a table showing who were the contractors, with particulars of the analysts' reports on their supplies. We have again made an analysis of the particulars given in detail by Mr. Brunker, with the following result:

Firm Names	Contracts Held	Analysts' Certificates	Defective Samples
Sumner & Co., Ltd., Liverpool	40	637	28
Boileau & Boyd, Ltd., Dublin	38	721	97
J. Clarke & Co., Ltd., Dublin	26	415	20
J. Clarke & Co., Ltd., Belfast	18	467	23
H. Boyers, Sligo	15	253	20
Cork Chemical & Drug Co., Ltd.	11	165	13
Ben Clarke & Son, Belfast	7	124	16
Adamson & Co., Ltd., Ballina	1	7	1
Arthur Burns, Mohill	1	11	2
Goldon & Co., Birr	1	17	1
H. MacNamara, Tuam	1	24	2

Last year the order of the contractors, according to the number of contracts was: (1) Sumner & Co., Ltd., fifty-one; (2) Cork C. & D. Co., Ltd., thirty-six; (3) J. Clarke & Co., Ltd., Dublin, thirty-four; (4) J. Clarke & Co., Belfast, fifteen; (5) Ben Clarke & Son, Belfast, nine; (6) Henry Boyers, Sligo, eight; (7) R. Adamson & Co., Ltd., two; P. N. White, A. Burns, Goldon & Co., Bonnar, Henderson & Co., each one. It is evident, therefore, that the contracts are being more distributed than they were. The numbers under "analysts' certificates" refer to the samples of medicines actually examined. It will be observed that there is considerable variation in results, but there is no sound law to go upon in this matter for comparative purposes.

Nine Months' Trade.

JUDGING from the Board of Trade Returns for September, the growth in our foreign trade shows few, if any, signs of diminishing as yet. Again the feature is the remarkable development in exports, the month showing an improvement of 4,631,000*l.*; imports, however, are marking time, there being an increase of 281,000*l.* only. The figures are as follows:

	September	Over 1906
	£	£
Imports	45,431,276	281,441
Exports	35,156,320	4,631,167
Re-exports	5,942,312	421,649
Total	86,529,908	5,334,257

The chief decline in imports occurred in manufactured articles, amounting to 164,153*l.*, the decreases recorded being possibly due in some measure to declines in values. Raw materials show a total increase of 62,980*l.*, cotton alone being 335,000*l.* more, and oils 237,700*l.* more; while food and drink imports were up by 341,700*l.* By far the largest increase in manufactured articles is attributed to chemicals, which advanced by 166,400*l.* on a total of 875,990*l.* The increased imports included cream of tartar (1,525 cwt.), muriate of ammonia (272 cwt.), saltpetre (7,351 cwt.), quinine (57,148 oz.), dyes (6,660 cwt.), unenumerated chemicals (55,086*l.*), unenumerated drugs and medicines (10,840*l.*), "other articles" (54,188*l.*); on the other hand, there were diminished imports of bleaching materials (5,848 cwt.), boron compounds (15,203 cwt.), brimstone (4,862 cwt.), glycerin (1,636 cwt.), soda compounds (6,222 cwt.), sulphuric acid (7,520 cwt.), and synthetic indigo (471 cwt.). With regard to British exports of the month, the bulk of the increase over 1906 was in manufactured articles, amounting to 3,227,500*l.* Cotton heads the list with 777,000*l.*, then new ships with 708,570*l.*, followed by machinery 464,490*l.*, iron and steel 380,750*l.*, and wool 338,700*l.* Chemicals were 40,450*l.* more, being 1,227,425*l.* The features in this department were increased shipments of bleaching materials, glycerin, quinine and quinine salts and unenumerated chemicals, but heavy declines are recorded in aniline and coal tar oils and "other sorts" of coal products (not dyes). Soda compounds are down by 77,450 cwt., principally owing to diminished shipments of soda ash and saltcake. Unenumerated drugs and medicines were stationary at 129,804*l.* The record for the first nine months of the year is now complete and a very remarkable one it is, the salient feature as shown from figures given below being the fact that the increase in exports of British goods alone has far exceeded the increase in total imports. The figures are:

Nine Months' Trade.

	Total	Over 1906	Over 1905
	£	£	£
Imports	475,144,838	32,129,083	64,747,190
Exports	319,281,164	41,226,919	76,885,596
Re-exports	72,247,060	9,323,950	14,470,416
Total	866,673,062	82,679,952	156,103,202

The forty-one million increase in exports is represented by 8½ million in raw materials (of which practically seven millions is coal), while manufactured goods are responsible

for thirty-one millions, or more than three-fourths of the whole increase. In this section we have the chemical group, the expansion in which reaches well over 1,400,000*l.*, as compared with last year, but as compared with 1905 the improvement exceeds 2,091,100*l.* Our total overseas shipments of "chemicals, drugs, dyes, and colours," amounting to no less than 12,958,226*l.*—figures, it is safe to say, which have never been surpassed in the history of the British chemical trade. It may be argued that we are doing this business on a narrower margin and that the cost of raw material, fuel, and wages have advanced considerably, values being inflated thereby, but like conditions rule in Germany and the United States. Almost every item has been exported in increased quantities, which is sufficient proof—apart from values—that the chemical industry is enjoying a full share of prosperity. Some critics argue that the Board of Trade values are fictitious, but when the expansion applies to actual quantities, the argument falls to the ground. We cannot do better than give a few of these "increased quantities":

	1905	1906	1907
Bleaching materials ... cwt.	659,702	729,952	788,555
Coal products, not dyes ..	7,264,546	8,469,365	8,745,598
Copper sulphate	1,076,200	805,620	833,620
Glycerin	98,933	117,116	158,735
Chemical manures ... tons	402,324	424,118	457,880
Medicines... ..	1,049,742	1,109,009	1,277,661
Ammon. mur.	68,656	90,191	121,173
Painters' colours	1,315,463	1,458,869	1,521,148
Soda compounds	3,426,545	3,774,729	4,173,799
Chemicals (unen.)	1,812,918	2,035,280	2,061,185

The above represent the leading items, and a glance at the figures is sufficient to show that the volume of the trade is satisfactory, especially when compared with the figures of two years ago.

The Sale of Poisons.

Numerous correspondents are propounding to us problems in poison trade which embarrass them, and might provide us with texts for many articles. Instead of replying to all of them, we suggest some calm reflection by chemists, both Minor and Major. The evidence of statistics and experience shows that the 1868 Act has justified its title "An Act to Regulate the Sale of Poisons," in so far as the care of qualified vendors has been instrumental in reducing the death-rate from scheduled poisons. Practically every question put to us is answered by anticipation in our *Diary* article on Pharmacy and Poison Laws, and we commend a reperusal of it. There is one, however, which may be mentioned: Why are manufacturers of arsenical weed-killers permitted to execute postal orders for the stuff from the public? Under the 1868 Act this is probably regarded as a wholesale transaction, but under the Arsenic Act it is an offence punishable on conviction with a fine not exceeding 20*l.*

d Reynolds Memorial.

It will be seen from a note in our news-columns this week that Leeds friends of the late Mr. Fred Reynolds have resolved to institute some memorial to him. There are, we feel sure, many in pharmacy who would like to contribute to the fund, and we understand that already a large number of doctors, pharmacists, and others connected with the drug-trade have signified their desire to associate themselves with the local committee, such as Mr. William Harvey, Alderman J. Rawlinson Ford, Professor A. G. Perkin, F.R.S., and Mr. Henry S. Wellcome. Mr. W. H. Scott, of the "Yorkshire Post," Leeds, is acting as Hon. Secretary, and subscriptions may be sent to him. We have promised

to remit to Mr. Scott any subscriptions received by ourselves from those in pharmacy who have been made familiar with Mr. Reynolds's name through his cartoons in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*.

Eighteenth Century Empirics.

The "British Medical Journal" of October 5, in an editorial note on "London Quacks in the Eighteenth Century," refers to the curious list of the empirics who flourished in 1848, as mentioned in the "Gentleman's Magazine," and manages to poke a little fun out of the subject. We mention the matter because the list referred to is printed as an appendix to our "Handbook on Medicine Stamp-duty," published in 1888, but now out of print. The list as given therein is much fuller than our contemporary's reference, and we may recall the fact that it was published by the "Gentleman's Magazine" under the title "Pharmacopœia Empirica."

Advice to Young Chemists.

Mr. A. H. D. Acland delivered the inaugural address at the reopening of the Royal College of Science last week, and there was one passage in it which we strongly commend to the attention of young chemists, who, we have occasion now and then to learn, do not give sufficient attention to the expression of their ideas in English. Mr. Acland said:

It is all very well to think lucidly and clearly; but it is a different thing to express on paper or by word of mouth with equal lucidity and clearness what one understands. For that purpose it is not enough merely to think that a progressive number of written examination-papers will give students all they want. It is really necessary that those who wish to have that kind of conciseness and effective clearness which so enormously adds to the force and vitality of a man like Huxley should do something to study the great masterpieces of the English language themselves. Let them take any piece of poetry or prose which has stood the test of time for some centuries, and let them ask themselves why it still remains a masterpiece of the English language. Let them in that way discover what it is that clearness means and how it is that force is attained. In later life, when they have to make reports, as all men in scientific life must do, they would often find that a practice of this sort would not have been altogether useless, even at the present stage of their education. Mr. Acland also advised students to travel when it is possible for them to do so. Scientific men constantly do a great deal by their interchange of ideas between this and foreign countries to forward that which we all desire—international friendliness. Nor is this the only good result that comes from travel. Darwin, in the last few lines of his account of his celebrated voyage, said that the effect of travel on a man ought to be, in a moral point of view, to teach him good-humoured patience, freedom from selfishness, the habit of acting for himself, and of making the best of every occurrence.

This is as good advice for men whose lives will be spent in commerce rather than science. For example, the art of advertisement-writing is parallel to that of report-writing. The value of both depends upon the choice and conciseness of language, and the more proportional it is to the facts the better are its results.

Trouble in German Pharmacy.

The German pharmaceutical world has not yet been able to recover from the utterly unexpected surprise it experienced at the annual meeting of the Apotheker Verein. The principal point of interest was the discussion of the proposed new Imperial Pharmacy Bill, which provides that all new pharmacies are to be purely personal concessions, and, by a system of taxation of the apothekers, proposes to buy up the saleable businesses in order to transform these into personal concessions. The surprise of the members can therefore be imagined when they heard the Board of the Verein, after indignantly refuting the allegations made against apothekers in the explanatory part of the Bill, go on to combat the personal concessions and then calmly propose that in order to ensure a settlement of this controversy

and bring about an assured state of affairs, the Bill (generally condemned and pronounced dead as a door-nail even in the Press), should be adopted, providing that guarantees were given that the present saleable pharmacies were not to be interfered with, and that proper provisions should be made for the survivors of owners of personal concessions. This resolution was proposed by the Board of a Society, which for over a generation has opposed the personal concession tooth and nail, and avowed that the free saleable pharmacy as the personal property of the owner is the only acceptable form. What makes the right-about turn more inexplicable is the fact that the resolution was carried with only two dissentients. Yet those who voted for the resolution were delegates of districts that had in their local meetings rejected the Bill unanimously! Accordingly, many attempts are now being made to find a reason for the sudden and general conversion. The most credible solution is probably the fact that the Government has in some way given the Board of the Verein to understand that the saleable personal property concession is out of the question, and that it would not consider for a moment the dropping of the purely personal concession, which gives the Government large powers in pharmaceutical matters. The conditions with which the resolution was wrapped up have been termed "a cannonade to cover retreat." It certainly was a retreat; the Government has won, for now it can point to the Eisenach resolution to justify its imposition upon apothekers of conditions which they individually resent.

Business Changes.

Properly authenticated business notices (not being advertisements) are inserted in this section free of charge if promptly communicated to the Editor.

BOOTS, LTD., have opened their new branch at High Street, Lewisham, S.E.

PURDUE'S HERBAL STORES have been opened at High Street South, East Ham.

MR. W. JONES has succeeded to the business of Mr. E. O. Jones, chemist and druggist, at 47 Southside Street, Plymouth.

MR. W. H. CROSLAND, chemist and druggist, of Sutton, Surrey, has sold his branch business at St. Leonards to Boots, Ltd.

MR. J. W. ROWE, chemist and druggist, Stuart Road, Peckham Rye, S.E., has closed his business and removed all the fittings.

MR. E. G. PRICE, pharmaceutical chemist, of High Street, Lewisham, has had an up-to-date front put into his pharmacy, and has also refitted the interior.

THE Livingstone Manufacturing Co., manufacturing chemists, have removed from 1 Paul Street to larger premises, 21 Portland Square, Bristol.

MR. E. W. HILL, chemist and druggist, of Redcliffe Hill, Bristol, has opened a branch, under the style of Hill & Stott, at St. John's Lane, Bedminster, Bristol.

MR. A. HAMMOND, chemist and druggist, has taken over the business at Palmerston Street, Bollington, near Macclesfield, formerly belonging to Mr. P. H. Hockenfull, chemist and druggist.

MR. W. K. SOMERTON, chemist and druggist, formerly manager for Mr. D. P. Roberts, at North End, Croydon, has purchased Mr. F. Cresswell's business at 357 Battersea Park Road, S.W.

APHORISMS.—No hypochondriac is a hero, save to his cash-chemist.—Dr. Robertson Wallace, in "Madame."

No cash chemist is a hero, save to his valetudinarian.—"The Star."

A DELAYED ADVERTISEMENT brings only the aftermath of trade. It's the first call that captures the autumn procession of customers.—*Printers' Ink.*

Winter Session of Chemists' Associations.

CANNON STREET ECLOGUES.

*Of the wind on the moor, or the song in the trees,
Of the rose of the dawn, or the sigh of the breeze,
We may sing not of these;
But of wisdom that's drowned in the Sessional seas,
Of the Tale that is hushed, or political wheeze,
We may sing you of these;*

DIPLOMACY.

Innocent lambkins
That gambol at Dewsbury,
Frisk in the pharmacy,
Hide in Church House;
Shrink from a thistle
And shy at a gooseberry;
Bloomsbury barks,
Each is still as a mouse.

Sometimes a black sheep
Is filled with contumacy,
Utters a bleat,
E'en when forehead is banged
Full with a Broadheaded
Chunk of diplomacy
Mutters, "Diplomacy!"
Go and be hanged!"

Shudders of horror,
And prayers for Secrecy;
Timid young lambkins
Look fearfully round;
Hope no reporter
Has pierced through the privacy;
Hope that no "Loyalist"
Heard that dread sound.

Work in the dark,
Like the mole in its burrowing,
Shun, like the Owl,
The full light of the day.
Jesse the Hawk
Might do things that are harrowing.
Make a great mystery
Part of the Play.

Naughty Northampton!
Let the unholy see
One little black sheep,
Squelched for his sins,
Dares to be bold,
And to bleat for a Policy;
Shepherds ne'er had one—
"Diplomacy" wins.

Great Yarmouth Pharmaceutical Association.

THE winter session opened on Thursday, October 3, Mr. Harvey Palmer (President) in the chair. There was but a small attendance, owing, it was thought, to the Church Congress meeting held in the town. A suggested programme of useful topics for discussion during the winter months was approved. Before the business was finished a vote of condolence was passed with Mr. C. E. Williams in the loss he had so recently sustained by the death of his eldest son.

Stockport Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held in the County Restaurant, St. Peter's-gate, on Wednesday, October 2, Mr. J. F. Royse (President) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. Bowden, Gee, Inglis, Nicholson, Travis, Watson, Westerman, Wilson, and Orrell. Mr. W. P. Orrell was elected the delegate to the local organisation meeting at Manchester.

Several matters of local pharmaceutical interest were discussed at some length. It was decided to have a social evening the first Wednesday in November, and a small committee was appointed to make the arrangements. The meeting proved to be of great interest to the members.

Leeds and District Chemists' Association.

THE first social event of the winter session under the auspices of the Leeds and District Chemists' Association

was held on October 9 at the Grand Central Hotel, Leeds, and took the form of a smoking-concert. The attendance far exceeded the anticipations of the promoters. Mr. F. P. Sargeant (President) occupied the chair, and those supporting him included Messrs. W. W. Pollitt (Vice-President), J. H. Beacock (Treasurer), J. R. Bentley, and other officials. The programme included songs, musical sketches, humorous sketches, and recitations, and among those contributing were Messrs. Stead, Jackson, Jefferson, J. Russell, J. Mundell, J. W. Morton, E. Crawford, Sydnem, Eddison, Chapman, and Professor Challenger.

North Kent Chemists' Association.

IN a circular letter Mr. R. Feaver Clarke (Hon. Secretary) states that the committee have arranged for the meetings to be held during the present session as follows:

Gravesend (inaugural meeting), Wednesday, October 16, at 4.30 p.m.

Woolwich, Thursday, November 21, at 4.30 p.m.

Chatham, Wednesday, January 15, at 4.30 p.m.

Dartford, Wednesday, February 19, at 6.30 p.m.

Maidstone, Wednesday, March 18, at 4.30 p.m.

Gravesend (annual general meeting and dinner), Wednesday, April (date to be fixed later).

The first meeting will be held at the Medical Hall Rooms, Gravesend, when matters of importance will be brought forward.

Bradford Chemists' Association.

THE session was opened on Tuesday, October 1, with a smoking-concert held at the Royal Hotel, Mr. H. R. Jackson (President) being in the chair. A rather novel feature of the proceedings was a visit of several music-hall people for the purpose of assisting in the entertainment. Mr. Craig, the manager of the Empire Theatre, gave a sketch, and from the Palace Theatre of Varieties were Mr. Hindell, who contributed a sketch, and Mr. Driscoll, who gave a song. Among chemists themselves Mr. Mackay, Mr. A. Hanson, and Mr. H. G. Dutton contributed to the musical programme. Messrs. Hanson, J. A. Mitchell, and M. Firth played the accompaniments. The attendance was scarcely so good as might have been expected, owing no doubt to the fact that the continuance of the fine weather has made winter events somewhat unseasonable.

Guildford Chemists' Association.

THE members held their first meeting of the present session at Guildford on October 2, when Mr. Clapham, of Farnham, took the chair. The annual reports were submitted by Mr. J. H. Mather, the accounts showing a balance in hand of more than 4l. Mr. Mather was reappointed secretary, and the meeting decided to recommend him to the Pharmaceutical Society as suitable for the post of divisional secretary.

At the next meeting of the Association, to be held on Wednesday, November 6, Mr. Wilson, of Dorking, will discourse to the members on milk-analysis. The Association starts the session with two members less than last year, these having left the district, but others are coming forward to take their place.

Northampton Chemists' Association.

A SPECIAL MEETING was held on October 4, Mr. A. Armit (President) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. Fred Cowdery (Hon. Secretary), G. Ingle, D. McKinnell, W. Lucas, E. Dennis, W. Rolfe, L. North, and W. Gatehouse.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY'S scheme of organisation was the special business of the meeting, and with regard to it the Chairman moved:

That the Northampton and District Chemists' Association appreciates this effort of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain to cultivate a closer relationship with its members and pledges itself to accord the movement hearty support.

They had often had occasion to criticise the Pharmaceutical Society, remarked the President, because they felt it had shown a certain indifference to the interests of members,

especially those in the provinces. He was a little inclined to the belief that London, through the shadow of its own greatness, was inclined to treat the country with a certain amount of nonchalance. That Association had a case within their recent recollection where their Divisional Secretary failed to get satisfaction over a very simple matter indeed, and, what was worse, he hardly received courteous treatment. Happily, however, there seemed signs of an improvement, and the present attempt of the Society certainly promised to bring about greater unity, and thereby to increase the value of their organisation for the protection and promotion of their interests. It would now be their duty to make clear what they expected the Pharmaceutical Society to do for them, for unless they thoroughly ventilated their grievances and gave definite instructions to their delegates thereon, the meetings under the new scheme would lack vitality. He was rather inclined to the opinion that the Press ought not to be excluded, but there might be good reasons for that step. In concluding, he appealed to the members to do what they could to help forward this new movement.

Mr. W. Lucas moved as an amendment that they simply express appreciation of the scheme and eliminate that portion of the motion pledging hearty support, because he felt they ought to know more of its possibilities before they gave the scheme such unqualified support.

The Chairman replied that he could not see his way clear to alter his motion, because he believed if they wanted to go in for it at all it should not be in any half-hearted manner. The amendment was not seconded, and the motion was then seconded by Mr. Dennis, and carried with one dissentient.

Halifax Chemists' Association.

THE opening meeting of the session was held at the Old Cock Hotel, Halifax, on Wednesday, October 9, Mr. W. E. Smithies presiding. There were also present, besides the members of committee, Mr. J. Swire, Mr. W. S. Fielding, Mr. Clement Fielding, Mr. Gibson Dixon, and others. After the Chairman had briefly indicated some of the arrangements for the session (Mr. W. S. Fielding and Mr. Pilkington Sargeant have promised papers), the analysis of prescriptions for the B.P. Pharmacy Committee was mentioned, and Mr. W. S. Thompson, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Cardwell (Brighouse), and others were appointed "a circulating medium" to see what can be done in the matter. The nominations as Divisional Secretaries were Mr. W. R. Black for Halifax, Mr. W. E. Smithies for Elland, and Mr. Wright for Sowerby Bridge. A brief conversation on the East Sussex "Codex" letter ensued. Mr. Gibson Dixon had engaged to read a paper dealing with the inconsistencies of the Poison Schedule as enlarged by Mr. C. Granville Wood in his contribution to the Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations. A letter was read from Mr. Wood giving the draft of points in his, and Mr. Dixon promised to deal with the subject at the next meeting. The draft of Mr. Wood's paper was read, and the gist of its subject showed the necessities that exist for reviewing and probably altering Parts 1 and 2 of the Schedule. Replying to the President, Mr. Dixon said he would deal with the subject at length at the next meeting of the Association. Mr. Bremridge's letter *re* organisation was then read. It was to the same effect as others that have been published, but in the present case Halifax will be grouped with Leeds, where it is proposed to hold a meeting. The President, in the discussion which followed, warmly supported the scheme. It was obviously a useful one, and ought to be loyally supported by the members. Mr. Clement Fielding, Mr. J. Swire, Mr. G. Dixon, and other members concurred, and a resolution approving of the scheme was unanimously adopted on the motion of Mr. C. Fielding, seconded by Mr. Dixon.

Dewsbury and District Chemists' Association.

THE first meeting of the Session was held on October 7, when there were present Messrs. John Day (President), A. Taylor (Morley), S. N. Pickard (Ossett), R. Gledhill (Dewsbury), R. Broadhead (Batley), G. N. Gutteridge (Dewsbury), A. B. Barker (Heckmondwike), W. Blakeley (Birstall), J. S. Flowers (Ravensthorpe), and G. Walker, Secretary (Dewsbury).

DIVISIONAL SECRETARIES.—Messrs. Gledhill (for Dewsbury), Barker (Spen Valley), and Pickard (Morley) were appointed divisional secretaries.

DISPENSING DOCTORS.—Arising from a recommendation by the East Sussex Association as to suggesting to doctors that they should order "B.P. Codex" preparations, some pertinent remarks were made by Mr. Broadhead. Most doctors, he said, did their own dispensing, or, rather, purchased concentrated tinctures and added the water. He found that his assistance was only sought when the doctor had something difficult to make up.—Mr. Pickard said he was acquainted with doctors who not only sold medicines, but such things as trusses, eye-shades, etc. The poor chemist was left entirely in the cold.—Mr. Broadhead thought that there was some possibility for the action of the doctor and the public in the fact that the chemist was supposed to deal in nostrums that were said to cure every disease on earth.—Mr. Blakeley: "And, according to the doctor, the chemist is hand-in-glove with the quack-medicine vendor."

THE LOCAL ORGANISATION SCHEME of the Pharmaceutical Society was also discussed. A meeting of a private nature is to be held, and the President was delegated to attend.—Mr. Taylor seriously objected to the air of secrecy which seemed to envelop the Pharmaceutical Society's doings. Why were they not trusted with the business of the Society?—Mr. Broadhead: "It's diplomacy."—Mr. Taylor: "Diplomacy be hanged! We have had too much diplomacy. They have never formulated a scheme and gone for it boldly and fearlessly. They are always afraid of Jesse Boot or somebody else hearing about it. We ought to have a definite policy."—Mr. Pickard remarked that things had leaked out in the past, and it had not been to the advantage of the Society.—Mr. Broadhead didn't think it mattered whether things leaked out or not. The opposition could be depended on to be always up to date and aware of everything on the move. Mr. Taylor: "Then why not do it straight and above-board? I have no patience with such tomfoolery. I propose that we tell the Pharmaceutical Society straight that the secret portion of their communication should be eliminated. They would never benefit themselves so long as they had so many secrets."—Mr. Taylor added: "I propose we ask the Society to adopt a definite aim and policy, as we cannot discover what it is," but it was decided to fall in with the Bloomsbury views.

Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society.

THE annual general meeting was held at the Builders' Exchange, on Tuesday, October 8, Mr. H. Antcliffe (President) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. H. G. Williams (Hon. Secretary), P. Carr, J. Evans, F.I.C., F.C.S., J. T. Appleton, C. Marsden, J. Chadwick, F. Medley, G. Squire, R. D. Douglas, G. J. R. Parkes, J. Pater, F. W. Whitworth, A. H. Culverhouse, Stathers, J. E. Alcock, B. Ellis, A. Preston, R. Dixon, J. W. Loft-house, and J. G. Jackson.

Messrs. Evans and Stathers were appointed as Scrutineers for the purpose of the election of members of the Council for the ensuing year.

SCIENCE CLASSES.—The President reported that Professor Denny and Mr. Bentley, or both, will take botany classes at the University on Tuesday evenings from 8 to 9; also that chemistry classes are to be arranged for the benefit of students on some evening each week.

ANNUAL REPORT.—The Hon. Secretary read the annual report of the Council for the past year, which showed that five general and two special meetings had been held, and summarised the various papers, etc., given thereat. With reference to Evans's paper on the "Manufacture of Vinegar" (abstracted in the *C. & D.* of May 25, 1907), the Secretary received a request for a copy of the whole paper from Dr. J. M. Hamill, who, on behalf of the Local Government Board, is engaged on an inquiry into the manufacture and composition of vinegar. It was stated that there was a profit of 9*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.* on the ball, and a credit balance of 8*s.* on the smoking-concert. The number of members is sixty and associates fourteen, being an increase of nine.—The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. George Squire) submitted the annual statement of accounts, which showed a balance at the end of the year of 16*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*—The report and accounts were adopted.

ELECTIONS.—Mr. W. H. Beeley, chemist, Main Road, was elected a member.—The Scrutineers reported that sixty voting-papers had been issued and forty returned, the result of the voting showing that the six retiring members of Council had been elected, viz.: Messrs. H. Antcliffe (thirty-eight), G. T. W. Newsholme (thirty-two), R. D. Douglas (thirty), H. G. Williams (twenty-four), G. Squire (twenty-two), and J. Austen (twenty-one).

KNOWN TO THE SELLER.—Mr. B. Ellis started an animated debate by suggesting that the wording as to the sale of Part 1 Poisons Schedule, viz., "it shall be unlawful to sell to any person unknown to the seller unless introduced by some person known to the seller," permits an easy remedy to a common difficulty. He contended that if a person wishing to purchase a poison were to bring into the pharmacy a neighbour of the pharmacist known to the latter, the fact that the introducer was known to the chemist was sufficient, and that it was not necessary for the introducer to be known to the buyer. He gave instances in which this might happen.—The debate was closed by a suggestion that the Hon. Secretary should place the question before the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.

THERE was a large gathering of the members of this Association, the Ladies' Committee, and the guarantors of the British Pharmaceutical Conference at a musical reunion which was held at the State Café on Wednesday evening, October 9, under the presidency of Mr. G. S. Woolley. The large dining-room of the café was well filled, and an excellent entertainment was provided, the principal items in the programme being contributed by members of the Association and their lady friends. Among those who contributed were Mr. G. W. Jenson, Mr. A. C. Vallance, the N/N Quartette, Mr. Granville Shaw (caricatures), Mrs. Breese, Mr. J. H. Franklin, Mme. Lee Brooks, Mr. J. W. Walton, and Miss A. C. Hughes. Advantage was taken during the interval of the opportunity to present Mr. W. Kirkby with a souvenir of the late Conference in the form of an illuminated address, as follows:

To William Kirkby, Esq., F.L.S., F.R.M.S.

DEAR SIR,—We, your colleagues on the general local committee of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, realising the brilliant success which has manifestly attended the recent meetings, desire to recognise with grateful appreciation the valuable services which you have rendered in organising and carrying out the arrangements to such a successful and gratifying issue.

We feel that your efforts to secure this end, so assiduously maintained during many months, merit our gratitude and thanks. We therefore ask you to accept this address as a small souvenir of an occasion which will long be remembered as an important episode in the pharmaceutical annals of this district. [Over 100 signatures were appended.]

In making the presentation the President (Mr. George S. Woolley) very cordially acknowledged on behalf of the pharmacists of Manchester and the district the strenuous and sustained labours of Mrs. Kirkby, which, he said, had a marked effect on ensuring the success of the Conference. (Cheers.) The President handed the address to Mr. Kirkby amid a volley of cheers, and afterwards, amid similar demonstrations of hearty good feeling, adjusted a gold bracelet on the wrist of Mrs. Kirkby as a souvenir to her of the Conference and as a recognition of the part she so admirably played in conjunction with the Ladies' Committee.

Mr. Young (President of the Pharmaceutical Society) supported the Chairman's remarks in a short speech, and expressed whole-hearted appreciation of Mr. and Mrs. Kirkby's services. It seemed, he said, to be generally understood throughout the pharmaceutical community that Manchester had "broken the record" so far as organisation was concerned, and that no more successful Conference had been held anywhere. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. H. Kemp spoke to the same effect.

In acknowledging the address and the gift to Mrs. Kirkby, Mr. Kirkby expressed sincere gratitude. He felt that the estimate formed of the services of his wife and himself were a little exaggerated. (No, no.) Without the aid of others—including the Ladies' Committee—his efforts would have been of little avail. In this connection he mentioned Mr. Walton and the Entertainments Committee, Mr. Barlow and the Excursion Committee, Mr.

Kemp (Chairman of local Executive), Mr. Pidd (the Treasurer), and Mr. Bate (Chairman of Hotels Committee and Vice-Chairman of the Executive). He also complimented the Midland Hotel management on the excellence of the arrangements made for the comfort of members attending the Conference.

The proceedings, which were throughout most enjoyable, were kept up till a late hour of the evening.

N.E. Lancashire Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting of the members was held at the White Bull Hotel, Blackburn, on Wednesday evening, October 9, Mr. C. E. Critchley (President) in the chair. Mr. J. Rennie (Secretary) reported fully on the work of the year, which the President considered very satisfactory, and the report was adopted, as also was that of the Treasurer (Mr. Highton), which showed a balance of 4*l.* 12*s.* 9*d.* in hand. It was agreed to send a guinea to the Pharmaceutical Benevolent Fund, but it was decided not to send half a guinea to the Federation. The past year's office-bearers were heartily thanked. Mr. Critchley was re-elected President, and the other officers elected were: Vice-presidents, Messrs. J. W. Openshaw and H. Lucas; Secretary, Mr. John Rennie; Secretary and Divisional Secretary, Mr. Highton; and Committee, Messrs. Walsley (Darwen), Aspinall, Parkinson, McMyn, B. Holden, E. Payne, and W. Standing (Darwen).

Machinery Exhibition.

FOR another week Olympia will shelter the magnificent display of engineering and machinery which has been temporarily installed there. A C. & D. representative visited it the other evening to see if there is anything strictly pharmaceutical in it, and found that a few houses well known to chemists are there. For example, Aeraters, Ltd., exhibit a new application for the method by which they produce "Sparklets." The sparklets which chemists are familiar with are made of pure block tin, which we mention in case anybody should confound the new applications with them, for metal knobs for rods, bedsteads, and the like are now produced "Prana" fashion in five different sizes of seven different metals, viz. plain brass, bronzed brass, coppered brass, polished steel, brassed steel, coppered steel, and bronzed steel. To their exhibit of these is added a great show of "Prana" Sparklet fire extinguishers, and their other products. A working exhibit is also made by Messrs. J. Defries & Sons, Ltd., of Pasteur (Chamberland) filters, the advantage of the display being that those who desire to see this method of filtering and sterilising water get at a glance the capabilities of small and large installations. In similar manner the Success Vacuum, Ltd., demonstrate the capabilities of the tin-filling and sterilising apparatus which was described in the C. & D. a few months ago. Then we had only seen one Vacuum at work; at the Exhibition there is a battery of six. The apparatus is simplicity itself, although years have been spent in making it so. Its object is to do away with sterilisation of tinned foods by heat. When the food or other substance (e.g., medicinal extracts) is put in the tin and the top put on, a little air-hole remains, and boiling the tin drives out not only air but flavour. In the "Success" apparatus we have a series of glass cylinders connected with an exhaust pump. In a movable receiver within this the filled tin is placed, and the cylinder lowered by a pull of a lever. This makes the chamber air-tight, and the pump pulls out every particle of air in the cylinder, and, of course, in the tin. When the gauge indicates exhaustion, a small lever is touched, whereupon a red-hot soldering rod drops down on the bit of solder on the top of the tin and, melting it, closes the tin hermetically. The whole process is so neatly and quickly done that one girl can keep the battery of six going. Besides its success with tinned foods, the apparatus is now used for one of the most popular infants' foods, which was formerly "weevilled" when it reached India; but, thanks to the new apparatus, there is now not a single complaint. Other manufacturers will find it worth looking into. Two splendid displays of the new gas for heating and lighting make the brightest spots in Olympia. The gas is air with under 2 per cent. of petrol vapour in it, and it is made on one's own premises.

Drawing the Doctors.

A PRETTY little exhibition is being held this week at the Horticultural Hall, Westminster, and doctors and dentists find it interesting. It has been organised by the "British and Colonial Druggist" especially for practitioners in these professions, and its effect will doubtless react upon pharmacy in the long run, seeing that most of the goods exhibited come within the province of the chemist as distributor. We have noted only the more recent productions of the various exhibitors, the staples of these firms being already too well known to the trade to require mention.

PHARMACEUTICALS.

ANGLO-AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL Co. have on show a new lactic ferment made by the Pasteur Vaccine Co., of Paris. This ferment is said to be antagonistic to the germ which causes auto-intoxication and is of peculiar value in infant feeding. It is put up in tablet form, one tablet being added to milk at a certain temperature. It is specially recommended in cases of infantile diarrhoea. ARMOUR & Co., LTD., have a very neat exhibit at which Lecithol (an emulsion of lecithin), a nutritive Elixir of Peptone, and Armour's Elixir of Enzymes are the newest remedies. Needless to say, the multifarious Armour pepsin products are given full show, and trypsin and amylopsin (in powder and glycerole) are attracting much medical attention in view of the cancer controversy. Mr. E. W. Jones has much to say of the value of the conjunctive treatment of these ferments as garnered personally from medical men. BAISS BROS. & STEVENSON, LTD., show many of their elegant pharmaceutical specialities. Liquor Colchicinæ Salicylat. (Hopkinson) is apparently a favourite, but much interest is indicated in some of the more recent additions like Mecanodyne (a denarcotised preparation of opium), "Neocolloid" (Baiss), a flesh-tinted fluid plaster capable of medication, and the series of Baiss glyceroles. F. BOEHRINGER & SOEINE make ceridin (yeast fat), ferratin, and arseno-ferratin the most prominent of their more recent productions. THOMAS CHRISTY & Co. direct particular attention to the Stearns's Adnephren and Alphogen, Anasarcin (a remedy for dropsy), ergo-apiol capsules, Schieffelin's cocaine discoids (for dental work), glycothymoline (and the extremely handy sterilisable eyebath to use it with), gonosan, lysoform, and the ever-popular Pertussin. Mr. Gilbert Christy is in charge of the pretty little stand.

ARTHUR H. COX & Co., LTD., have the knack of constructing an exhibit which impresses not only the professional, but also the lay imagination. The design of the Royal Arms in pills of vari-coloured coatings, framed and hung in a conspicuous place, focuses the attention of the visitor at once, and leads naturally to inspection of the tritirates of stypti-renal, the antiseptic and other tablets, and the pills for which the Brighton firm is famed. The tritirates appear to have caught the fancy of the medicos. CROYDEN & Co., LTD., are making a speciality of catheters ("Croyden's Unique," "Croyden's Olive Coudée," and a special prostatic bi-coudée in brown silk web), bougies (Marshall shadowgraph ureteric bougie), the Marshall suspender, and Nauheim bath salts. The Aeosan bath-attachment, for producing carbonic-acid and oxygen baths, is also shown at Messrs. Croyden's stand. Anaesthetics, and more particularly "ethyl chloride," hold the attention of visitors at the stall of DUNCAN, FLOCKHART & Co. In this connection a well printed and well illustrated booklet on "Chloryl Anaesthetic, Duncan," is being given away, and D., F. & Co. will send a copy to anyone interested. Formates are in fashion, and a "glyceroformate," being a syrup of the glycerophosphates with formates, is a new combination with possibilities. There is likewise a fluid extract of malt with formates and a Capsule Formate Co. (Duncan) which are worthy of note.

At the pleasant stall of EVANS SONS LESCHER & WEBB, LTD., "Membroids" are the *pièce de résistance*. The "Membroid" series now includes aspirin, Bland's pill and combinations, cascara, cascara belladonna, creosote, copaiba, guaiacol, ipecacuanha, male fern, and quinine. The Algrion preparations, Thyroglandin, and the products of the Liverpool Institute of Comparative Pathology have likewise due prominence. "Panopepton" is the keynote of the exhibit

of FAIRCHILD BROS. & FOSTER. Lecithin-Fairchild ($C_{44}H_{90}NPO_8$) is in 8-oz. bottles, and this anti-brainfag remedy appeals to the doctors. Trypsin and amylopsin are shown in ampoule form ready for hypodermic injection. A feature is made of the fact that trypsin in powder is not recommended for preparing hypodermic injections, the injectio trypsin being made from the fresh gland. HEARON, SQUIRE & FRANCIS, LTD., demonstrate the all-round character of their business by showing in neat cases fine samples of crude drugs, fine chemicals, compressed tablets, concentrated galenicals, and pharmaceutical specialities. The branch of the camphor-trees, fresh-looking and green, and the slab of camphor-wood, direct from Japan, lend additional interest to the squares of camphor on the same shelf. Beautiful crystals of cocaine and of caffeine, fine samples of the various opiums, ampule "Hausmann," iron emulsion "Heron," etc., tend to make a most varied show. HEDLEY & Co. show ethyl chloride in various containers and in combination with liq. icdoform. evap., cocaine, etc., as well as the Hedley inhaler. C. J. HEWLETT & SON have Mist. Neuro Co. for neuritis, Hemorrhaline (a pile ointment), Derma colloid (a fluid plaster), and a witch-hazel snow, among other novelties. The Hewlett concentrated liquors and mixtures are in full force. JEVES' SANITARY COMPOUNDS Co., LTD., are showing the many forms in which Cyllin is prepared, and distributing Cyllin literature copiously. KNOLL & Co. are pushing Bromural (monobromio-valerianyl-urea) and Santyl (the salicylic ester of santalol) as their newest lines.

The MARTINDALE exhibit, just by the front entrance, is closely inspected. Chemists who were at the Manchester Conference will be interested in seeing the *Sansiviera thyrsiflora* which Dr. Martindale exhibited there actually growing on the card! The plant, or part of the plant, came all the way from South Africa, and Manchester seems to have put new life into it. The principal new remedies are Biscinoid (bismuth-cinchonidine iodide), colalin and colalin laxative, elixir hæmoglobin, ext. thymi sacch., faxin (active and pure beer-yeast) in powder and pills, glyc. iodic., and ibogaine (a new alkaloid, possessing tonic properties, obtained from a Congo plant). The motor-car emergency outfits (10s. 6d., subject) are the smallest and most complete in useful contents, and opsonic-index outfits contain all that the physician requires. MEISTER, LUCIUS & BRÜNING, LTD., find Emanosal, "a preparation containing a constant quantity of radium-emanations in absolutely permanent form," to be attractive to visitors. Emanosal is put up in tablets of 30 grams weight for use in 200-litre bath, and is said to be effective in the hydropathic treatment of rheumatism and gout. A brilliant display of fine chemicals, alkaloids, glucosides, serums, and organo-therapeutic preparations is made by E. MERCK. The Merck specialities include acetico-salicylic tablets, Bromipin in various forms, fibrolysin, iodopin, Paraphenin, and perhydrol, among many others. OPPENHEIMER, SON & Co. are great on aseptules of ergole, Hayem's solution, renaglandin, trypsin, calomel, and mercurial creams, etc., as well as compressed dressings of all kinds. In compressions the latest is a packet (2½ in. by 2½ in. by 1½ in.) containing bandages, gauzes, plaster, needle silk, and safety-pin—all that is needed for a first-aid dressing. "Pulverettes" are medicines in powder form put up like sugar-coated pills. The coating, however, is like an egg-shell, and slight pressure between the finger and thumb releases the powder.

PARKE, DAVIS & Co., as usual, have a large and important display, emulsions being the feature. Egmol (a nutrient and laxative containing 40 per cent. of olive oil emulsified with fresh eggs), petroleum emulsion, creosoted emulsion, and the ordinary cod-liver-oil emulsion are included. The "Glaseptic" pocket nebuliser is neat, natty, and portable, while the typhoid agglutometer is proving its reliability daily. Mr. H. Hickey, Mr. Sidney Jamieson, Mr. MacAlley, and other representatives are educating the doctors in the P.D. medicinal specialities, of which iodolbin and formidine are the most recent. SACCHARIN CORPORATION, LTD., have an exhibit entirely devoted to Novocain. Pumiline pine-essence, jujubes, extract, liniment, ointment, and soap are shown by STERN & Co. Wright's coal-tar specialities and Marza wine are shown in the small but very well displayed exhibit of WRIGHT, LAYMAN & UMNEY, LTD.

A. & M. ZIMMERMANN give Sublamin (non-poisonous and non-corrosive sulphate of mercury ethylenediamine), iodol, nastin (for leprosy), cellotropin (a new remedy for tuberculosis), Aronson's streptococcic serum, Bilitin (a solvent for gall-stones), and Herbanin (a vegetable-iron preparation) as their latest productions.

FOODS.

BOVRIL, LTD., and VIROL, LTD., have a combined exhibit. Both are too well known to require other than mention. BRAND & Co., LTD., have a full display of their invalid specialities—tried friends of the medical profession. A pretty display of cocoa essence, the new Bournville chocolate, and C.D.M. chocolate is made by CADBURY BROTHERS, LTD. A lady attendant shows visitors the proper way to make cocoa and chocolate for drinking purposes. She uses a switch for mixing instead of the usual spoon. Starchless foods and sugarless preserves are the *métier* of CALLARD & Co.; moreover, their products are not tasteless. CLAY, PAGET & Co. show Paget's modified milk for infant feeding, sugar-free milk (Morris's patent) for diabetics, a "germ-free" feeding-bottle, etc. INTERNATIONAL PLASMON, LTD., exhibit Plasmon preparations galore, and they make a very good show indeed. KEEN, ROBINSON & Co., LTD., have been known for their farinaceous foods for years. The latest is Waverley oats. Colman's mustard and sinapismic preparations are also shown in variety. LAMONT, CORLISS & Co. have a new powdered dry beef free from preservatives—Charles Marchand's "Meatox." They also exhibit "Hydrozone" and "Glycozone." Maltine plain and with oil still find favour with the profession, and Carnrick's liquid peptonoids are still reckoned a very valuable food in spite of new ideas. All are shown by the MALTINE MANUFACTURING CO., LTD. The MIOL MANUFACTURING CO., LTD., arrest attention with a most effective display of their new food for tubercular and other wasting diseases. NESTLÉ & ANGLO-SWISS CONDENSED MILK CO., besides the well-known "Milo" food, are pushing the "Ideal" milk—fresh milk—in sealed bottles. The milk, from which no cream is removed, is received twice daily, and delivered in bottles sealed with a cardboard disc and enamelled cap which effectually prevents the milk being tampered with. "Tilia" preparations have a good show at the hands of PEEK, FREAN & Co. The latest idea is a "Tilia" sprinkler, after the style of an artistic pepper-box, which is placed on the table for sprinkling "Tilia" powder over any food which is to be consumed. The PROTENE CO., LTD., are showing protene preparations. "Racia," the latest thing in baby foods, is displayed very strikingly by the CENTRAL RACIA DÉPÔT.

SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS AND DRESSINGS.

ALLEN & HANBURYS, LTD., have a fine display of surgical instruments and appliances and aseptic hospital furniture. We can only mention a few of the most recent introductions. These include the improved "Oslite" electric forehead lamp, Pare's (improved) syringe for local anaesthesia, Lockhart Mummery's sigmoidoscope, Japanese icebags, and Japanese silk (for ligatures and sutures), "Tetra" compresses and bandages, and Stack's dressing steriliser. THE DENTAL MANUFACTURING CO., LTD., are pushing Waite's local anaesthetic, various dental and anaesthetic appliances, and the "Unique" apron. The last-named is useful for all who require to use an apron, and need not necessarily be confined to surgeons, dentists, etc. It can be slipped on and off in a second, as there are no tapes to be tied, the apron being held in position by two springs, one at the neck and the other at the waist. The springs are easily removable, and the apron may then be washed or boiled as the case may be. THE DENVER CHEMICAL-MANUFACTURING CO. are exhibiting Anti-phlogistine. A fine display of medicated plasters and surgical dressings is made by JOHNSON & JOHNSON. "Z O" (zinc oxide) aseptic plaster is engaging most attention, the "Z O" plaster-cabinet containing six spools of assorted sizes, being offered at the price of the spools alone. "Red Cross" cotton and "Red Cross" gauzes and the other dressings with the familiar mark have evidently come to stay. S. MAW, SON & SONS have a very striking exhibit right opposite the main entrance of sets of instruments for major and minor surgery in aseptic cases. There are likewise sets of instruments for

pocket dressing, the "Securitas" tourniquet, a new test-stand, a new aseptic midwifery and surgical bag, a new ethylchloride and ether inhaler, a new electric centrifuge, and a new standard electric lamp. The aseptic furniture includes a new operation-table, theatre trolley, and a portable operation-table. Maw's sterilised dressings are well to the fore, and a high-pressure steriliser for dressings. G. H. ZEAL, the specialist in clinical thermometers, is showing the "Repello" in six different varieties.

BEVERAGES.

GEORGE BACK & Co. have a display of "G.B." Diabetes whisky. IDRIS & Co., LTD., are making a feature of sugar-free ginger-ale, and the aseptic merits of the Chinaway siphons commend them to the medical visitors. "Koolime" is an agreeable aerated preparation of limes just introduced. INGRAM & ROYLE, LTD., exhibit Vichy (in four varieties), Carlsbad, Contrexéville, "Pavillon," and many other natural mineral-waters, salts, and pastilles. One of the prettiest little exhibits in the hall is that of PERRIER, and medicos and their lady friends apparently find the water agreeable. STEPHEN SMITH & Co. have Hall's wine and Keystone Burgundy well displayed.

SUNDRIES.

J. DEFRIES & SONS, LTD., show Pasteur (Chamberland) filters in a variety of designs, Equifex disinfectors, and give samples of scented formalin in liquid and tablet form. BAILLIÈRE, TINDALL & COX have a stall with medical and scientific books for inspection. In view of the interest shown recently in the card-index system for prescriptions, a visit to the stall of the LYLE TRADING & MANUFACTURING CO., LTD. is not uninteresting. The company have a card-index system for doctors which is making considerable headway, and a card-index expert at the stand (who is not an American, by the way) will explain the system lucidly and fluently. The system they have introduced for prescriptions consists in having a card (say, 5 in. by 3 in.), upon which there are spaces for the name and address of the patient in the top left-hand corner, and the ledger folio and date in the right-hand corner. Then below the name and address of patient is put the name of the prescriber, and the prescription follows, a space being left on the right-hand side for the charging folio. This is working one prescription to one card, but several prescriptions (for one patient) may be worked on one card by using an 8-in. by 5-in. card. The method is ingenious, and apparently works well.

Trade Notes.

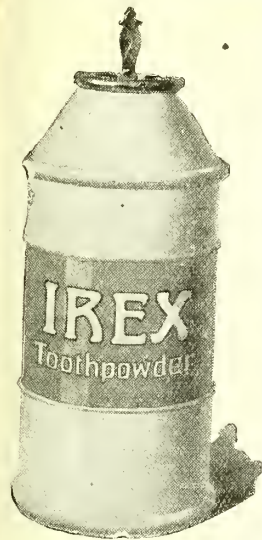
A CHRISTMAS OFFER is made this week by Messrs. John Gosnell & Co., Ltd., of their "Fragrant" series of perfume-caskets, toilet-powder, and "Society" eau de Cologne, particulars of which will be found on reference to their advertisements.

"RADIANT" MARKING-INK, offered by Messrs. William Bros. & Co., Clarence Chemical Works, Hounslow, deserves the attention of our readers on account of the fact that it is an aniline ink of remarkable limpidity and permanency. Some inks in this class hitherto introduced have been most disappointing, but our examination and trial of the "Radiant" ink indicate that it will be a reliable preparation. Samples and prices can be obtained from the firm on application.

ALMANACKS.—The season for distributing almanacks is fast approaching. Of this we are reminded by the receipt of a specimen set of almanacks from Messrs. James Townsend & Sons, Exeter. These publications are especially adapted for chemists' distribution; the set comprises the Universal almanack, the Bonquet almanack, purse calendar, pocket diary, folding calendar, and card calendar. Messrs. Townsend inform us that they will be pleased to send a set to any chemist who contemplates adopting this mode of advertising.

IREX TOOTH-POWDER is the sister of Odol mouth-wash, but quite distinctive in get-up. It is put up in a novel

manner. A white porcelain flask delivers a proper portion of the tooth-powder, without the brush coming into contact with the contents of the flask. This is managed by pressing the top of the flask upon a small tray supplied with each flask, when the valve opens and delivers a dose of powder for use, and then closes automatically. In this manner Irex tooth-powder is kept fresh and dry, and as a flask yields about sixty doses of tooth-powder, each contains sufficient powder for two months of daily use. The flask and tray are packed in a carton selling at 1s. In regard to the powder, the Odol Chemical Works, Ltd., inform us that it is free from acids, alkalies, soap, colouring, and organic matter; the flavour is peppermint. As the complement of Odol there is a bright future before Irex, and chemists are likely to experience another boom in



this company's products.

The Week's Poisonings.

SIX poisons used in pharmacy were the cause of fourteen fatalities during the past week. No fewer than five (four suicides and one misadventure) were due to hydrochloric acid, the only unscheduled poison employed. Three suicides were with laudanum, two with prussic acid, and one each with oxalic acid, carbolic acid, and an unidentified corrosive. At Sheffield Mrs. Elizabeth Dean drank a poisonous liniment in mistake for an internal mixture, and died from the effects.—The laudanum suicides were John Godfrey, a Barnsley bottlemaker, who died at Wakefield; an unknown man whose body was found at Seven Kings; and David Flack (58), a Clitheroe tailor. At the inquest on the last-mentioned, it was stated that 1½ oz. of laudanum was obtained by deceased from the shop of Boots, Ltd., at Blackburn. The Coroner explained to a juryman who wanted to censure the chemist who sold the laudanum that there were no restrictions on the sale of laudanum by a chemist, but few chemists, he thought, supplied 1½ oz. of laudanum to a man unknown to them. The Coroner pointed out that they could hardly censure the chemist without hearing what he had to say. "If the Chemists' Association think it necessary," he added, "they can take action in the matter."—John Latham (40), a groom at the Royal Veterinary College, Camden Town, committed suicide with prussic acid, which it was surmised the deceased must have taken from the college dispensary.—Thomas Robert Bowdler (42), of Shrewsbury, is also reported as having died from prussic acid poisoning. At the inquest it was stated the police had ascertained that deceased bought the poison on July 4, and according to the register he signed at the time of making the purchase he obtained the acid "to remove stains from his hands."—A traveller named Pearce Crosbie (55) was found dead on Hampstead Heath, the medical evidence showing that death was due to poisoning by oxalic acid.—The body of Joseph Valentine, of Chorltoncum-Hardy, was found in a field near Hopwood Hall, Middleton, and carbolic acid poisoning was given as the cause of death.—John Carter (71) poisoned himself at Cosham, Portsmouth, with some "strong corrosive poison."—Martha Eliza Squires, of Lewisham, took spirit of salt in mistake, she said, for peppermint. The bottle containing the spirit of salt bore a red "poison" label with the name and address of the seller, a chemist, upon it. The chemist, at the inquest, said he had a dim recollection of a woman buying spirit of salt from him, but he did not register the sale, as spirit of salt is not on the schedule of poisons. The Coroner (Mr. H. R. Oswald) said that was curious,

seeing that carbolic acid is on the schedule. Spirit of salt, he said, is a very dangerous poison. The suicides by spirit of salt were Violet Simmonds (19), of Southampton; Lilian Martin (36), of Bethnal Green; Maud Elizabeth Checkley (22), of Canonbury; and Emily Jane Baker (38), of Clerkenwell. At the inquest on Mrs. Baker, it was stated that the deceased woman attempted to poison her daughter, 4½ years old, before poisoning herself. A son of the deceased, 9 years of age, deposed to buying the spirits of salt at an oilman's. The Coroner (Mr. Walter Schroder) pointed out that there was a law preventing the sale of intoxicants to children under fourteen years of age, and yet some people appeared to have no hesitation in selling a dangerous poison to a child. There ought to be a law to put a stop to such a practice. The jury, in returning the usual verdict, added a rider drawing attention to the careless sale of the poison.

Information Wanted.

Inquiries for the names and addresses of manufacturers, or other trade information, not traceable by reference to the advertisement-pages of "The Chemist and Druggist" and the "C. & D. Diary," or not filed in our private register, are inserted here free of charge. Postcard or other replies to any of the subjoined inquiries (addressed to the Editor "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.) will be esteemed.

- 247/9. Who are makers of carbopine disinfectant?
- 252/43. Who are the makers of Tare Cure, a remedy for obesity?
- 247/52. Where may glass pens for use with marking-ink be obtained?
- 247/13. Names wanted of makers in Scotland or the North of England of turned-wood and chip boxes.

Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patents Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form No. 7, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," September 25, 1907.)

- "AURIA"; for a medicine. By The Auria Remedies Co., 938 Garratt Lane, London, S.W. 295,804.
- "BIFEE"; for all goods in Class 42. By Liebig's Extract of Meat Co., Ltd., 4 Lloyd's Avenue, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. 295,017.
- "DRI-SKWOSE"; for a powder for making drinks. By John Biddle, 1 Abbotsford Road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham. 294,786.
- "OXADE"; for goods in Class 42. By Liebig's Extract of Meat Co., Ltd., 4 Lloyd's Avenue, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. 295,021.
- "SNOWFOAM"; for an ice-cream powder. By Carter & Sons, 29 and 31 Summerfield Street, Sheffield. 295,157.
- "MELLINE"; for a food for animals. By The Molascuit Co., Ltd., 155 Fenchurch Street, London, E.C. 295,486.
- "PHOSPHIZ" (sparkling); for an aerated beverage. By E. P. Shaw & Co., Ltd., City Road, Wakefield. 294,384.
- "NAP"; for soap in Class 47. By Christopher Thomas & Bros., Ltd., Broad Plain Soapworks, Bristol. 293,445.
- Figure of Britannia leaning against a lion and holding a shield; for toilet-articles. By A. Berliner, 13, 15, and 17 Worship Street, London, E.C. 290,749.
- "NONOVA"; for perfumery. By F. W. Warrick, 6 Nile Street, City Road, London, N. 295,169.
- "CARLINE"; for polishing-preparations. By the District Chemical Co., Ltd., 1 Fenchurch Avenue, London, E.C. 294,945.

MOROCCO BEESWAX.—The exports from the consular district of Dar-al-Baida were as follows: Dar-al-Baida, 632 cwt. (1905, 492 cwt.); Rabat, 384 cwt. (1905, 134 cwt.); Mazagan, 528 cwt. (1905, 440 cwt.); Saffi, 836 cwt.; and Mogador, 3,700 cwt. (1905, 1,540 cwt.). Total value of the trade, 39,310£, an increase of 23,218£. Tangier also exported wax valued at 4,412£, against 4,511£. in 1905; Larache 3,027£, against 1,125£. worth in 1905; and Tetuan 385£, against 675£. in 1905.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., October 10.

BUSINESS conditions in drugs and chemicals continue much as previously reported. Several important alterations in prices have taken place, including a further substantial advance in cream of tartar due to the reasons noted last week. Tartaric acid is also strong and firmer. Citric acid is easy. Rumours have been plentiful as to a new convention of German quinine-makers which is to include the two Dutch factories, but as yet the affair has not materialised. Quicksilver is higher, and mercurials will be advanced to-morrow. Methylated and industrial spirit has advanced, and methylated ethers are $\frac{1}{2}$ d. dearer all round. Japanese refined camphor and Chinese crude are both lower. Copper sulphate is again easier. An auction of first-hand drugs was held to-day, while the principal alterations of the week are as follows:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Aloes, Cape	Peppermint oil (Amer.)	Cinchona	Camphor (China cr. and Jap. ref.)
" Curacao	Sarsaparilla (grey)	Cod-liver oil	Cantharides (China)
Buchu	Tartaric acid	Copper sulphate	Ferri et ammon. cit.
Caraway seed	Turmeric (Madras)	Honey (Jam.)	Ipecacuanha
Cream of tartar		Manna	Pepper
Ethers, methylated		Oil lime (W.I.)	
Linseed		Peppermint oil (Jap.)	
Methylated spirit & finish			
Quicksilver			

Cablegram.

NEW YORK, October 10:—Business in drugs is improving. Opium is dull and easier at \$6.50 per lb. for druggists—a reduction of 15c. Balsam copaiba has advanced to 45c. for Central and South American. Peppermint oil is firmer at \$1.60 in tins. Hydrastis (golden seal) has advanced from \$1.78 to \$2. Quinine is steady at 16c. Dandelion is much dearer at 40c. per lb., and cascara sagrada is firm but unaltered.

Heavy Chemicals.

Generally speaking, the steady demand for both main and miscellaneous products of the heavy-chemical market is well maintained, and this remark applies both as regards home and export business. Costs of manufacture keep high, and all indications point towards a continuance of such a position, and this, together with regulation of stocks, keeps the values of practically all products on the firm side. Business in forward requirements is good.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—Bleaching-powder is very steady, and good contracts over next year are being steadily closed. Caustic soda, as intimated last week, is very firm, and present prices are: 76 to 77 per cent., 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ 2s. 6d.; 70 per cent., 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5s. to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7s. 6d.; and 60 per cent., 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5s. to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ 7s. 6d. per ton. The firmer tone in salteake is well maintained, and yellow prussiates of potash and soda are also somewhat steadier.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA, although rather quiet, seems a little firmer. Supplies, as is usual at this time of the year, are getting heavier, but the existing demand is sufficiently strong to prevent decline in values. The position as regards forward business is the same as depicted in recent reports, sellers holding for advance and buyers being disinclined to grant same. Present nearest values: Beckton October-December delivery 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2s. 6d., January-April delivery 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5s., Beckton terms 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 12s. 6d., London 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 13s. 9d. to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 15s., Leith 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ 2s. 6d. and next year 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5s., and Hull 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 16s. 3d. to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 17s. 6d.

BICHROMATES OF POTASH AND SODA continue to move well, and are steadily maintained at unaltered figures. Bichromate of potash, English and Scotch deliveries, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., less 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Glasgow, and export 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. net, f.o.b. Glasgow. Bichromate of soda, English and Scotch deliveries,

3d. per lb., less 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Glasgow, and export 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. net, f.o.b. Glasgow.

LEAD-PRODUCTS are rather on the quiet side, but rule fairly steady at unchanged rates. White acetate of lead, 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ per ton, brown acetate of lead 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10s. to 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ 15s., and nitrate of lead 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ 5s. per ton, all less 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Glasgow.

American Drug-market.

New York, October 1.

A fair amount of business was transacted during the week, mostly of a jobbing nature. Price changes were limited to a very few articles, and the market presented a steady and firm appearance. There are few features of novelty to record. Opium is unsettled and dull. Cascara and hydrastis continue firm. Guarana is higher and in upward tendency. Peppermint and camphor are easy.

BERBERIS AQUIFOLIUM is lower at 25c. by reason of fresh arrivals from the West.

BLOOD-ROOT.—The demand has been fair to moderate, and prices are maintained at the former level of 9c. to 10c.

BUCHU-LEAVES are in active request and higher, in sympathy with the stringency at primary sources of supply. 25c. is considered an inside quotation for prime green. Considerable business has been done in "yellowish" at 20c. and upwards, according to grade and quantity.

CAMPHOR.—Owing to the firmer tendency apparent in foreign markets, a faint degree of firmness is shown on spot in so far as quotations have remained unchanged at 75c. during the past two weeks. Dealers still find it necessary, however, to make concessions in order to secure a share of the business, competition being as keen as ever.

CANADA FIR BALSAM is becoming very scarce in the local market, and little can be obtained at initial sources. \$3.30 per gal. might be done in a small way, but many holders refuse to shade \$3.50.

CASCARA.—The market is rather quiet, but firm. Small lots have changed hands at the former range of 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; practically no transactions on a large scale have been recorded. There were very few offers from the Coast. A limited quantity is said to be available at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. f.o.b., but many dealers hold firmer views and decline to shade 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

COD LIVER OIL.—Newfoundland oil shows a firmer tendency. While quotations are nominally unaltered at \$22 to \$25 as to brand and quantity, the number of barrels offered at the lower price is strictly limited.

COFAIBA.—C. and S. American is selling freely at a lower range of 40c. to 45c. per lb. Shipments for this market have been unusually light, but the supply on hand is sufficient to cover all demands meantime. Para is steady at 90c. to \$1.05. Fair sized lots of oil were sold at \$1.30.

GUARANA.—The limited supply on spot is pretty well concentrated, and holders have advanced their quotations to \$2.75, an increase of 85c. on last week's price. The reported shortage at producing-centres has influenced a very strong feeling in the market here, and higher prices are expected to rule before long.

HYDRASTIS is meeting with increased inquiry for both home and foreign consumption, and local dealers are scarcely able to cope with the demand. On spot \$1.78 is still possible in a small way, but round parcels have been sold at the full asking price of \$1.85. The present firm tone of the market, coupled with the difficulty in meeting the ever-increasing demand, points to the establishment of a much higher basis of prices in the near future.

OPIMUM.—Quotations are unchanged and nominal at \$6.75 for case lots of drug assaying 10 to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. morphine (by U.S.P. process). Open parcels are quoted at the usual advance of 5c. The market is listless, buyers keeping out of the market in expectation of lower prices.

PEPPERMINT OIL (AMERICAN).—Tin oil is, if anything, slightly easier, though quotations are nominally unchanged at \$1.60 to \$1.70. The movement is slow and confined to parcels for immediate consumption, buyers adopting the well-worn tactics of purchasing cautiously till more definite information can be obtained from the distilling-areas.

PERU BALSAM is quoted all the way from \$2.25 to \$2.75. The market is unsettled by the presence of artificial balsam, a fair proportion of which can doubtless be added to the genuine and without arousing suspicion.

POKE-ROOT is again higher at 10c., owing to extreme scarcity. **QUININE SULPHATE.**—Aside from the deliveries on contract orders, the movement is comparatively slow.

WINTERGREEN OIL.—Arrivals have not been equal to the seasonable demand, and quotations have consequently been advanced to \$2.40 to \$2.75 for birch oil.

Java Quinine Auction.

At the auction held at Batavia on October 9 there were offered 4,799 kilos. Ed. II. quinine sulphate, of which 1,225 kilos. were sold at an average of 11.50f. per kilo. (=3 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents Amsterdam unit), against the same price at the previous auction. The next sale will be held on November 13.

German Alcohol.

In consequence of the continued complaints with regard to the forthcoming potato-crop and the rise in the price of potatoes and produce, the committee of the Spirit Centrale recently held a meeting in order to discuss the advisability of an advance in the spirit prices for the 1907-8 campaign and to consider the question of the rebate, or "Abschlag," price and that of production restrictions. No definite conclusion was arrived at, but proceedings are to be resumed on October 15. The Centrale has issued the following report: "The committee of the Spirit Centrale have decided, in view of the many contradictory reports and estimates of the potato-crop, not to fix the prices for the new business year until the middle of October, and meanwhile to ascertain the opinions held by the principal representatives of the trade, who are to meet in Berlin on October 15. Until then the "rebate" payment will be maintained at the present level of 40m. The sale price for prompt delivery of "prima" rectified spirit has been fixed at 55m. per 100 litres pure alcohol, and that for denatured alcohol remains unchanged." Until October 6, 1906, the "rebate" price amounted to 42m., then, although the potato-crop was not a very large one, it was reduced to 40m. This was due to the unusually large quantity of spirit (amounting to almost one million litres) which was on hand, and to the fear of the spirit ring being dissolved. At the meeting held in October 1906 the production was limited to 82 per cent. Of late there has been a considerable increase in the demand for spirit, especially alcohol for drinking purposes. The consumption of spirit for industrial purposes cannot be clearly estimated from the official statistics, as the syndicate disposes of large quantities of denatured spirit which are not under official control. The supply of spirit cannot be very large at present as the stocks were much decreased by the export sales of the ring. Now, at the beginning of the season, the production can be considerably increased, as there will be large quantities of potatoes in the market which must be prepared immediately, in order to avoid loss.

London Markets.

ACID, ACETIC, is a firm market in conjunction with all acetate products, the price of 99 per cent. glacial being 39s. per cwt., and 98 per cent. 38s.

ACID, CITRIC, is steady, the English makers' price being unchanged at 1s. 10½d., while in second-hands 1s. 10d. will buy; foreign is quoted 1s. 9d. per lb.

ACID, TARTARIC, has been in good demand, and fair quantities have been sold for delivery next year; the market is now firmer, foreign having been advanced to 11d. and English to 11½d. per lb.

ANISEED.—Small sales of fair old crop have been made at 21s. 6d. to 22s. per cwt. New crop is offering at 21s. 6d., c.i.f. terms, and at 23s. for small lots on the spot.

CAMPHOR.—The *Redstart* has arrived with 942 cases *via* Havre. Chinese crude is offered at the lower price of 205s. c.i.f., and Japanese is also lower, with sellers of 2½-lb. slabs and 1-oz. tablets at 2s. 6d. per lb. c.i.f. terms, but to-day 2s. 5½d. c.i.f. has been paid.

CARAWAY-SEED is steady, but less business doing. Good Morocco seed is selling at 36s. to 36s. 6d. per quarter.

CARAWAY-SEED is dearer at 34s. to 35s. per cwt. on the spot for fair to good Dutch. For new crop, f.o.b., a price equivalent to 35s. is asked.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Further sales, including one of 10 tons, have been made at 45s. per cwt. c.i.f. for October-December steamer shipment from Pacific Coast. On the spot 48s. 6d. is quoted, but probably this price could be shaded. In the drug-auction 182 bags fair, slightly coarse bark, said to be either 1903 or 1904 crop, were bought in at 50s., no response being made to 48s.

CINCHONA.—At auction on Tuesday the small supply of 602 packages was offered, of which rather over one-third was disposed of at easier prices, the average unit being ¾d., against 1d. last sale.

The following table shows the quantity of bark purchased by the principal buyers:

	Lb.
Messrs. Howards & Sons, Ltd. ...	27,368
The Imperial Quinine Factory ...	10,560
The Mannheim Factory ...	5,605
The Brunswick Factory ...	400
Druggists, etc. ...	5,256
Total quantity sold ...	49,159
Bought in ...	79,930
Total quantity offered ...	129,089

The following table shows the quantity of bark offered and sold:

	Packages Offered	Packages Sold
East Indian cinchona ...	220 of which	36
Ceylon cinchona ...	229 "	83
Java cinchona ...	153 "	153
	602	272

The prices paid were as follows: EAST INDIAN officialis, original stem-chips 3¾d., good root 5¼d. per lb. CEYLON, *Succirubra* stem-chips 2¼d. to 2½d., branch and twigs 2¼d. JAVA, *Ledgeriana* stem-chips 5¼d. to 5¾d., root 4¾d., branch 4¾d. Hybrid root 3d. to 4¾d., and branch 2½d. to 2¾d. per lb. In the drug-auction 14 serons of good bright Huanuco quill sold at 7½d., and for four serons Loxa 8¼d. per lb. was paid; 24 bales of flat Calisaya were also offered, the sound of which (10 bales) sold at 8¾d., and for the country damaged (14 bales) 5¼d. to 6d. was paid. Another parcel of 30 bales flat was bought, including good bright sound at 1s. 2d., a bid of 10d. being refused.

CHAMOMILES are quiet this week, there being few, if any, offers for shipment in the market. On the spot prices are firm at 82s. 6d., at which business has been done.

CLOVES.—At auction 23 bales Zanzibar were bought in at 7d. for fair and 6½d. for dark; 4 cases Penang offered and 1 sold at 1s. 4d. for good bright picked. Privately the arrival market is lower, with sales of near-at-hand at 5¼d. to 5¾d., January-March at 5½d. to 5¾d. c.i.f. delivered weight; also October-December delivery at 5½d. to 5¾d., and March-May at 5½d. Spot is quoted 6½d.

COPPER SULPHATE is again easier at 23l. 5s. per ton on the spot, and in Liverpool spot and forward is quoted 22l. 10s. to 23l.

CORIANDER-SEED is quiet at 8s. 3d. to 8s. 6d. per cwt. for Morocco on the spot.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—A further advance of 3s. per cwt. has taken place in the spot quotations, the value of 98 per cent. being 86s. and 95 per cent. 84s. per cwt., but owing to the unsettled market there are few sellers, and even higher rates than the above have been paid. Several of the most important French makers have had to cancel their contracts as a result of the disastrous floods, and there is great difficulty at the moment in obtaining supplies from France.

CUMIN-SEED.—Sales of common to good Morocco are reported at 42s. 6d. to 48s. per cwt.

ETHERS.—Owing to the advance in methylated spirit, the price of methylated ethers has been advanced by the makers ¼d. per lb. all round.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—The price for retail lots is maintained at 11s. 6d. per cwt. A fair business has been done for shipment on the basis of 9s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f. terms.

FERRI ET AMMON. CIT.—The price of 1-cwt. lots has been reduced 1d. to 1s. 10d. per lb., but the list price remains unchanged at 2s.

GINGER at auction was quiet. Small-cut Calicut in cases was bought in at 52s. 6d., medium-cut 72s. 6d., and unsorted native-cut at 55s. Slightly wormy washed rough Cochín was bought in at 40s., and brown Calicut rough at 40s. also.

GUM ARABIC.—Small sales of good bold dullish Australian have been made at 65s., and glassy dusty at 55s. In the drug-auction small sales were made at 47s. 6d. per cwt. for fair palish soft gum.

HYDRASTIS is now very scarce on the spot, and practically all the available parcels have been taken up by the makers of alkaloid at 7s. 6d. per lb. net.

LINSEED is dearer. For good clean seed 51s. to 52s. 6d. per quarter is the price.

MANNA.—The prices of the new, which have been very high as the result of an unfavourable crop, have eased somewhat, large flake offering at from 3s. 5d. per lb. upwards.

MERCURIALS.—In consequence of the two advances in quicksilver this week, mercurials will in all probability be advanced 1d. per lb. to-morrow (Friday).

NUTMEGS.—The large supply of 560 packages West Indian was offered and sold at irregular but firm to rather dearer prices.

METHYLATED SPIRIT.—The combined methylators have issued a circular announcing an advance of 3d. per gallon

in non-mineralised and mineralised spirit. They are as follows :

In one delivery	Non-mineralised Spirit for manufacturing	Mineralised Spirit for retailing
300 gals. and upwards ...	1s. 7d.	1s. 11d.
100 under 300	1s. 8d.	2s.
30 " 100	1s. 9d.	2s. 1d.
10 " 30	1s. 11d.	2s. 3d.

The above prices are for 64 o.p. spirit; 61 o.p. is $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per gallon less. Methylated finish 1d. per gallon extra.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on October 7 that an easier feeling prevails, finest non-congealing Lofoten oil offering at 67s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen, without buyers. The exports from that port to date amount to 9,836 barrels, against 12,261 barrels at the same time of last year.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—The market for American oil continues dull, and the price for Wayne County is nominal at about 7s., but at the close rather higher prices have been cabled from America. H.G.H. continues unchanged at 11s. 1d. to 11s. 3d., London terms, and for Japanese oil (Kobayashi) prices are easier, with sales for October-December shipment at 4s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. c.i.f. In the drug-auction 10 cases Yazawa brand Japanese oil were offered without reserve, but had been sold privately at a better price than those obtained in auction a fortnight ago.

OIL, WOOD.—For Hankow 32s. 6d. c.i.f. October-November shipment is quoted.

OPIMUM.—Our Smyrna correspondent writes as follows :

SMYRNA, September 27.—There is nothing to report this week. Last week's buyers for the Dutch Government came forward again, but on sellers asking 29s. 6d. or about 31s. 6d., after allowing for shrinkage, risks, and commission, they retired. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 1,196 cases, against 2,672 cases at the same period last year.

PEPPER.—At auction no supplies were offered; privately fair Singapore is quoted 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ d. spot, and to arrive business has been done in Singapore for October-December shipment at 4 $\frac{1}{8}$ d., c.i.f. Of White pepper 140 bags brownish Singapore and 117 bags Penang were bought in, latter at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for fair limed; privately the market is easier at 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. spot for fair Singapore, and for December-January shipment 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. landed terms has been paid.

PIMENTO was steady at auction, 270 bags being bought in at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

QUICKSILVER was advanced 2s. 6d. on Wednesday to 7l. 10s. per bottle, and to-day a further advance of 5s. was made to 7l. 15s., secondhands quoting 7l. 13s. 6d.

QUININE.—Although there was a decline of about 10 per cent. in the bark unit at Amsterdam last week, the makers' price is unaltered at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per oz. for German sulphate. In consequence of reports as to a possible reconstruction of the syndicate of German quinine makers, more speculative interest was shown towards the end of last week, with fair sales from second-hand at 8d. per oz., and December at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d., but since then practically nothing has been done. We understand that negotiations have been taking place recently between the German makers and the two "outside" Dutch factories for the inclusion of the latter in the syndicate. It may be remembered that the Amsterdam quinine factory seceded from the syndicate of German manufacturers at the beginning of 1906, signalling their departure by the inauguration of public auctions of quinine; the second Dutch factory has been an "outsider" since its inception, and as their prices have always been below those of German makers, their competition has naturally made itself felt, especially as regards consumption. Evidently the German and Dutch factories now see the folly of working against each other; hence the present negotiations, the outcome of which is exceedingly doubtful, at any rate, so far as regards the remainder of this year. As usual at such a period, rumours are plentiful, one being that the agreement was to have been signed on Monday, and that the German makers have been quietly buying up the London stock; but no credence can be placed on these statements. It may be mentioned that

on September 30 this stock stood at 3,547,232 oz., against 3,156,912 oz. in 1906.

SAFFRON.—Practically no details have been received here as to whether the recent floods in Andalusia have interfered with the growing saffron crop. Prices on the spot are very firm, and in order to buy finest B.P. quality 33s. 6d. would have to be paid, and at 1s. less an inferior description, yet B.P. can be bought.

SHELLAC is quiet on the spot, with small sales on the basis of 147s. 6d. to 150s. for fair TN Orange, up to 160s. being quoted for superior, and for fine orange-marks 180s. and upwards is quoted. Futures are nominal, TN for December being quoted 132s. 6d., and January and March at 130s. per cwt., and for arrival TN October-December shipment is quoted 128s. to 130s., and November-December 125s. c.i.f.

London Drug-auctions.

At the auctions of first-hand drugs held to-day the tone was again extremely dull, and bids came with painful slowness, the bulk of the goods being bought in. Cape aloes sold at an advance of about 2s. on account of scarcity, while for Curaçao, again, higher rates were paid. Buchu-leaves were $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to $\frac{3}{4}$ d. higher, and for Sumatra benzoin a better demand prevailed. Japanese birdlime went off cheaply without reserve. Cardamoms were somewhat irregular, but generally steady. Calumba is tending firmer. Cascara sagrada is quiet. China cantharides sold at a low figure, and slightly wormy Spanish ergot was forced off. Gamboge was held for long prices, but Jamaica honey is flat and tending easier. East Indian ipecacuanha fell 2d., and slightly easier prices were accepted for Matto Grosso. Fine kino maintains its price. Myrrh is somewhat scarcer, and fair business is doing privately. Nux vomica is extremely scarce. Rhubarb sold steadily, and for grey Jamaica sarsaparilla 1d. advance was paid, Lima and native Jamaica showing no change. Tinnevely senna was fully firm, and beeswax of all descriptions was flat, with, if anything, an easier tendency. The following table shows the amount of goods offered and sold:

Offered Sold		Offered Sold	
Agar agar	10 ... 0	Menthol	7 ... 7
Aloes—		Myrrh	38 ... 1
Cape	12 ... 12	Nux vomica	2 ... 2
Curaçao (bxs.) ..	18 ... 18	Oil—	
Socotrine	10 ... 0	aniseed	10 ... 0
Ambergris (pkgs.)	6 ... 1	Backhousia cit. ...	4 ... 0
Aniseed	25 ... 0	citronella	4 ... 0
Annatto	28 ... 0	clove	2 ... 0
Apricot kernels ...	1 ... 0	eucalyptus	80 ... 0
Argol (Cape)	25 ... 25	lemongrass	2 ... 0
Asafetida	11 ... 0	lime	6 ... 6
Benzoin—		patchouli	10 ... 0
Sumatra	108 ... 16	peppermint	
Bird lime	100 ... 100	(Jap) 10 ...	*10
Buchu	6 ... 6	Orange-peel	1 ... 0
Calumba	103 ... 5	Orchella weed ...	19 ... 0
Canella alba	5 ... 0	Puree	1 ... 0
Cannabis indica ...	29 ... 0	Rhapontica	8 ... 0
Cantharides		Rhubarb (China) ...	57 ... 7
(China) 20 ...	20	Sandalwood chips	187 ... 0
Cardamoms	125 ... 105	Sarsaparilla—	
Cascara sagrada ...	182 ... 0	grey Jam.	8 ... 6
Cascarilla	13 ... 0	Lima	14 ... 14
Cashew-nuts	31 ... 0	native	4 ... 1
Cinchona	72 ... 42	Scabiac	30 ... 0
Cochineal	5 ... 0	Seedlac	51 ... 0
Colocynth	1 ... 0	Senna and pods—	
Cuttle-bone	50 ... 0	Alex.	96 ... 12
Ergot	14 ... 14	Tinnevely	128 ... 128
Ergotin (Bonjean) ...	1 ... 0	Squill	53 ... 0
Fennel-seed	10 ... 0	Sticklac	165 ... 50
Galls	1 ... *1	Sugar-of-milk	5 ... 0
Gamboge	4 ... 0	Tamarinds—	
Gentian	15 ... 0	E.I.	50 ... 0
Gum arabic	57 ... 20	Tonka beans	3 ... 0
Honey—		Turmeric	152 ... 0
Honduras	6 ... 6	Wax (bees')—	
Jamaica	112 ... 40	East Indian	17 ... 0
St. Lucia	67 ... 3	Egyptian	2 ... 0
Ipecacuanha—		Honduras	1 ... 0
Cartagena	1 ... 1	Jamaica	27 ... 0
East Indian	21 ... 2	Madagascar	35 ... 0
Matto Grosso	17 ... 2	Rangoon	22 ... 0
Minas	5 ... 0	Spanish	3 ... 0
Jalap	24 ... 0	West Indian ...	2 ... 2
Kino	2 ... 0	Zanzibar	186 ... 0
Kola	17 ... 2	Wax, myrtle	20 ... 0
Lime-juice	11 ... 0		

* Sold privately.

ALOES.—Cape aloes, being scarce, sold at firmer prices. Ten cases of Algoa Bay fair hard firsts, part streaky, sold on "estimated tares" at 34s. 6d. to 35s., and dull and drossy 32s. Two cases Mossel Bay aloes sold on "usual 20 per cent. tares" at 32s. for dull black softish slightly ullaged and drossy seconds. Ten kegs of fair hard Socotrine were held at 90s. Eighteen boxes of Curaçao (all that offered) sold at higher prices, from 60s. to 62s. 6d. being paid for good liver, and 55s. for fair capey turning livery.

AMBERGRIS.—One tin, containing about 4 oz. net, sold at 20s. per oz. subject for fair grey, of weak flavour and of doubtful quality.

ARGOL.—Twenty-one bags of Cape partly pinky containing 34.20 per cent. of crystallised acid sold at 17s., and for 4 bags 38s. was paid.

BENZON.—Sumatra was in rather better demand, some 25 cases changing hands at from 7l. 15s. to 8l. for good almondy seconds slightly false-packed ends; good fair seconds were held at 7l., and for thirds 90s. was refused, the buying-in price being 5l.

BIRD LIME.—A lot of 100 cases Japanese sold without reserve with all faults at 2½d. (one lot 2¾d.) per lb., being cheap.

BUCHU-LEAVES, being scarce, sold at an advance of from ½d. to ¾d. per lb., fair green round slightly stalky realising 10½d. to 10¾d., and slightly yellowish stalky 10d. to 10¾d. Two bales of fair green ovals, slightly country-damaged, sold at 7d. to 8d. per lb.

CALUMBA is tending firmer as some quantity has lately been cleared off the market. In auction a parcel of fair sorts was held for 12s. 6d. per cwt., and for 5 bales of small to bold yellow washed 19s. per cwt. was paid without reserve.

CANTHARIDES.—Twenty cases China flies sold without reserve at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb. for fair small to bold, a few lots being broken and dusty.

CARDAMOMS sold at slightly irregular prices, but on the whole generally steady, the following rates being obtained: Ceylon-Mysore, bold long palish to pale, 1s. 9d. to 1s. 10d.; bold and medium palish to pale, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d.; small and medium palish to pale, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 5d.; good pickings, 1s. 5d.; small brown heavy, 1s. 3d.; brown and split and pickings, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 3d.; seed, 1s. 9d. to 2s. per lb.

CASCARILLA.—For very lean stringy bark 65s. to 67s. 6d. was wanted, 55s. being asked for siftings.

CUTTLE FISH BONE.—For fair small broken to whole Bombay bone, 3d. per lb. was wanted.

ERGOT.—A parcel of 14 bags of bold sifted Spanish, slightly wormy, sold without reserve at from 10d. to 1s. per lb., being lower.

GAMBOGE.—For 4 cases of gamboge consisting of Siam pipe slightly blocky, but of good bright orange fracture, a bid of 16l. 5s. was refused, the buying-in price being 22l. 10s.

GENTIAN.—For lean 21s. 6d. was wanted gross for net.

HONEY was flat and tending easier. Good bright amber syrup in barrels sold at 25s. 6d., rather darker ditto at 24s., and dark ullaged liquid at 21s. 6d.; thick brown realised 22s. to 23s., dark yellowish brown fermenting 20s. to 21s., and pasty brown 18s. 6d. to 19s. per cwt. Six cases dark Honduras liquid, in cases, realised 18s. 6d. subject, and for 3 barrels good clear syrupy St. Lucia, 23s. was paid; 63 cases were bought in at 25s.

IPECACUANHA.—Slow of sale and easier. A new lot of 21 bales East Indian of mostly fine bold native picked quality was offered, but no sales of sound were made in the restrum, the broker being firm at 6s., several bids of 5s. 11d. being refused. Two bales of sea-damaged sold at 5s. 7d. Sales were afterwards more privately in the room at 6s., marking a reduction of 2d. on the public sale of September 12. Of 7 bales Matto Grosso offered 2 sold at 6s. per lb. for fair bright bold, being also easier; and a further 10 bales were bought in at 6s. 3d. Cultivated Minas was held at 6s., and for an odd bag of ordinary Cartagena 4s. 10d. was paid.

KINO.—Fine red Cochin grain was bought in; sales of this quality are reported to have been made at 1s. 5d. per lb.

KOLA.—Two boxes of green W.I. sold without reserve at 2½d. per lb.

LIME JUICE.—Eleven hogsheads of partly good pale raw West Indian were bought in at 1s. 5d. per gal.

MENTHOL.—Five cases Kobayashi sold without reserve at from 7s. to 7s. 1d., and for two cases Yazawa 7s. was paid.

MYRRH.—A case of bold pale picked gum sold without reserve at 5l. 10s. per cwt. Privately some quantity has been lately cleared off the market, including fair sorts at 65s. up to 85s. for good.

NUX VOMICA being extremely scarce, the two bags of medium to bold darkish Ceylon sold with good competition at 12s. 6d. per cwt.

OIL, BACKHOUSIA CITRIODORA.—For four cases from Melbourne 9s. per lb. was asked.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—A parcel of 8 cases containing 46 to 47 per cent. cineol was bought in at 1s. 1d. A fair amount of business is being done privately at from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 1½d. for B.P., and from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. for the higher percentages of cineol.

OIL, LIME, sold at a decline of 2d. per lb., 2s. 7d. being accepted for 6 cases of West Indian distilled.

RHUEARB.—Steady. Bold round orange-coated Shensi with three-quarters good pinky fracture, sold at 2s. 11d.; selected bold flat, of extra fine pinky fracture, realised 3s. 2d., and for 2 cases of medium flat, with fine fracture, 2s. 10d. was paid. Two cases very small round, horny, High-dried, part stalky, with one-third pale fracture and two-thirds grey and dark, sold at 7½d. per lb. Six cases, all sizes of flat High-dried, with seven-eighths good pinky fracture, were held for 1s. 7d. per lb. Thirty-eight cases have arrived from Shanghai.

SARSAPARILLA.—Genuine grey Jamaica sold at firm prices, 1s. 8d. per lb. being paid for 3 bales fair, part slightly chumpy, and for a further 2 bales 1s. 9d. was paid from another catalogue. Eight bales Lima-Jamaica sold at steady rates, 1s. 6d. being paid for fair, and 1s. 5d. for part coarse and chumpy. Two bales of rather dullish pale red sold at 1s. 1d. per lb., mixed dull being bought in at 1s. 2d.

SENNA.—The small supply of Tinnevely sold steadily, including good bold green at 7d., medium and bold greenish 3½d. to 4d., fair small and medium greenish 2¾d. to 3d., small common yellowish mixed 2d. to 2¼d. per lb. Pods, sold at 2d. to 2½d. Twelve bales of dull broken Alexandrian leaf sold at 3½d., and good pale pods were bought in at 9½d. A bid of 8½d. is to be submitted for several lots.

SQUILL.—Good pale dry squill was bought in at 6d. per lb.

STICKLAC.—Small Rangoon off stick was bought in at 6l. per cwt. nominal, and for 50 boxes of blocky Rangoon 60s. was paid.

SUGAR OF MILK.—The limit in auction for 5 cases of Italian B.P. was 45s.

WAX, BEES'.—There was no demand for Jamaica wax, the 27 packages offered being bought in at from 7l. 10s. to 7l. 15s. per cwt.; for a pile of 85 bales Zanzibar a bid of 6l. 12s. 6d. is to be submitted for fair even brown; fair part mixed Madagascar was bought in at 7l., slightly off-colour bleached Calcutta at 7l. 5s., and bleached Spanish at 7l. 10s. Twenty cases *Berry* or myrtle wax were bought in at 100s. A case of good yellow to dark brown West Indian sold at 7l. 7s. 6d.

A SALE BY AUCTION of the equipment and fittings of the Metropolitan College of Pharmacy on October 27, is announced in our Supplement this week. There should be good bargains going.

AUSTRALIAN DUTY ON OPIUM AND BOTTLES.—The following Customs decisions have been notified by cablegram to the Commonwealth Office in London: The duty on medicinal preparations containing opium is charged under item 293 at 30s. per lb., or under item 291 at 15 per cent. *ad val.*, whichever is the higher duty. In cases of spirituous preparations where the quantity of opium is small, duty is charged under item 293 or item 3 (14s. per proof gallon), whichever yields the most duty. The capacity of bottles (items 259 and 260) is taken to be the contents when corked. Glass-tube containers under 1 dr. and containers sealed by fusing glass are not considered bottles under the above items.

London Chamber of Commerce.

A LARGELY attended meeting of the Proprietary Articles Sub-section of the London Chamber of Commerce was held on Friday, October 4, the principal object being "to consider what action, if any, should be taken in regard to the regulations affecting patent medicines in Australia." Those attending included Messrs. John C. Umney (Chairman), W. S. Glyn-Jones, R. D. Briedenbach (Briedenbach & Co.), J. Alex. Brown (G. T. Congreve), Ashley W. Cole and A. Binning (A. J. White, Ltd.), Esmond Condry, A. D. Mitchell, and J. A. Kenningham (Condy & Mitchell, Ltd.), F. A. Crisp (Steedman & Co.), J. Gilbert Dale, C. U. Fisher, E. Glover (T. Beecham), J. Griffiths (Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd.), R. Johnson (De Roos, Johnson & Co.), T. A. Platt (Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co.), B. W. Powell (T. Powell, Ltd.), J. B. Robertson, J. A. South (Steedman & Co.), Martin Taylor (Apollinaris Co., Ltd.), W. E. Woods (Woods' Great Peppermint Cure), and C. Wylde (T. Keating).

The minutes of the previous meeting on December 15, 1906, having been read and confirmed, the Chairman gave a *résumé* of the discussion that took place at the preliminary meeting of the Chemical Trade Section on September 23 (see *C. & D.*, September 28, p. 506), when it was suggested that possibly it would be well to attempt to make some compromise, and to point out the legal difficulties that were involved in the disclosure of formulae, and to obtain, if possible, reconsideration of the whole position by the Australian authorities. They must not, however, lose sight of the fact that the legislation now being sought in Australia and New Zealand has, in somewhat different form, been enforced in France and Germany for many years past, more recently in Italy, and now in Russia. Indeed, in England there has been a strong outcry against quackery, and the address of Mr. Sewill recently delivered at Reigate is a strong indictment of the methods of quack-medicine proprietors, and indicates well the danger to the public. Mr. Umney thought that just as Mr. Beale's report has been received with mixed feelings by the medical profession in Australia, so would such suggestions as Mr. Sewill's be received in this country. They had also to remember that a large proportion of the revenue of newspapers, and especially the so-called religious newspapers, is drawn from advertisements of quack remedies, the harmfulness of which in many instances there is little doubt. The full text of the recommendations made by Mr. Beale in his report to the Commonwealth Government had been printed in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* of that day, and should be read by everyone interested. A more ridiculous and impossible series of regulations it would be difficult to conceive. Steps have been taken by the Western Chemists' Association to take some action, with a view to placing restraint on trade in secret remedies, and only during the past week a deputation placed its views before a committee of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society. In Germany also an attempt has been made to evade the regulations for traffic in secret medicines and preparations which had been selected and placed upon a black-list and the advertising and recommendation of which have been prohibited have been put forward under new names. It might interest those present to know that the number of articles which cannot be advertised or recommended amounts in all to 123.

Discussion being invited,

Mr. W. E. Woods (Woods' Great Peppermint Cure) said it was the duty of every proprietor of proprietary articles to enter a vigorous protest against this unnecessary and prohibitive legislation. No doubt they were all aware that for some years past, when political "movements" are necessary, it has been the fashion for individual members of the Legislature to bring in a very drastic measure which would be the subject of many protests, and eventually it becomes an ordinary measure. That process is being applied at the present time to the proprietary-medicine agitation. When the Chambers of Commerce take this matter up in conjunction with the individual efforts of everybody concerned—including the newspaper Press, large buyers and storekeepers in Australia—good results would be brought about. The proposed legislation is both strong and weak.

Its strength lies in the fact that it is a movement of the Federal Parliament—it is a Government movement. One can only think that Sir William Lyne has brought it about in justification of his appointment of Mr. Beale. The weakness of the "movement" as it stands is apparent, because of its great interference with trade. It has not even the common recommendation of being revenue-producing, which is what political parties like to see. It is going to be an expensive Bill to administer, and will require a new Department. Altogether it is a weak measure, and when placed before Parliament it will be seen from that point. At the same time it necessitates most decisive steps being taken, and the question arises, Can we bring in anybody to help us? There are many other people interested as well as those on this side, and it is necessary to look into the conditions of business in Australia. Doubtless everybody present knew that the same custom of selling proprietary medicines in Australia has existed since the Colony was founded. They were aware that grocers carry large stocks of these proprietary medicines, and that combinations of grocers exist with perhaps a hundred shops. Such people had felt the necessity of combination by forming united associations to protect themselves against hasty legislation. They have their own organisation and means of communication, and they take great care to watch their own interests. Such associations could render material help and assistance should they be asked for from them. The Australian merchants also have their close corporations, and on this question they see as clearly as we do that their interests are being attacked. It would not be a difficult matter to convey the ideas of proprietors to the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce, and in turn these ideas would be conveyed through them to every small trader in the land, thereby making one united effort. Mr. Woods alluded to the influence of trade-journals and also the importance of soliciting the aid of the great Press of Australia. Other interests concerned were large London buyers who buy for Australian merchants and the wholesale drug-houses. With such forces as these they would surely be able to put forth an emphatic protest in one united form as from the Chamber of Commerce. He laid great stress on individualism, and the more friends they could get, the more they would make it a burning question. It had been said that there is a possibility of proprietors closing their markets in Australia, but it must not be forgotten that the Australian market is becoming larger every year, and will keep on increasing. Therefore it would be wise to do everything in our power, said Mr. Woods, and by fighting the matter tooth and nail he believed the British manufacturers would come out on top. (Applause.)

Mr. C. Urquhart Fisher (Secretary of the Manufacturers' Association), speaking as an outsider, said there is so much litigation in the air about the irregular sale of poison that it is difficult to know how the question stands. They did not want to do anything irregular, but they were not allowed to carry on their business in certain Colonies, and, looking at it from that point of view, they naturally looked round to find out where the fault lay. They might look at it from the point of view of the temperament of the different nations who have passed these prohibitory Acts and ask what is the reason why. Do they want these proprietary articles kept out of their own country, or is it for any measure of protection? Undoubtedly there is a strong feeling in Australia to prohibit proprietary articles without the production of formulae, and therefore they have nothing to do but pass fresh legislation, if necessary. The legal opinion does not matter so much as one could wish. The weakness of the case is their lack of respect for trade-secrets which have always been respected in this country. He did not believe Lord Elgin appreciated this question, and did not think he would allow such measures to be passed without a strong protest. Unless, however, some special inducement was put upon Cabinet Ministers they did not always receive deputations, and he (Mr. Fisher) suggested that Lord Elgin should be approached privately, say through the offices of a member of the Government, and state their side of the case.

Mr. A. H. Mitchell (Condy & Mitchell) said they were often told there is no harm in the disclosure of trade-secrets, as such a thing is done in Germany, France, and Russia; but the law as it stands in those countries protects manu-

facturers, and is quite different from that ruling here, where it has been decreed that there is no monopoly in the name after the secret process has been discovered. He suggested that this point should be brought up when representations are made.

Mr. J. A. Brown (representing G. T. Congreve) said he decidedly declined to disclose formulae to any official board.

Mr. C. Wyld (T. Keating) said they might offer to allow the Government Analyst in the Colonies to analyse their preparations, but they would certainly not disclose formulae.

Mr. A. Glover (T. Beecham) described how matters stand in the Commonwealth Parliament, pointing out that Sir William Lyne had practically promised to draw up regulations which would compel proprietors to disclose their formulae. It is quite possible they would see a way out of the difficulty by fresh legislation, and it is the duty of proprietors to keep such within reasonable bounds and see it is carried out in a reasonable spirit. It has already been plainly intimated that the request for formulae cannot be complied with, and although in Germany the formula is demanded, his (Mr. Glover's) firm did not attempt to do business there. The recommendations in the Beale report he regarded as utterly ridiculous. They were the work of an anti-patent-medicine faddist. When the matter was mentioned to the Colonial Office on the last occasion they said they had no definite information to work upon, but there is now definite information, and they might again be approached, although it must be said the Colonies were apt to "bang, bar, and bolt" the door against any suggestions from the Colonial Office. He quite agreed with Mr. Woods that they should approach the Australian Chambers of Commerce. Captain Collins also had not been seen. It is to be deplored, said Mr. Glover, that the whole of the British trade in proprietary articles should suffer because of the wrongdoing of a few articles certainly not British. Mr. Beale had not said anything definite against any British manufacturer. He mentioned two cases of death from "Complexion Pills," but he (the speaker) had not heard of any complexion-pills on this market; poisonings were also attributed to "Bland's pills and lezenges," but these were not proprietary articles. They must see that legislation proceeded along reasonable lines, in pursuance of which Mr. Glover again gave the salient features of the American plan. In that instance it may be remembered they started out by demanding the formula, and then found out its utter impracticability. British makers were quite willing to assist the Commonwealth Parliament with suggestions for any legislation, and if they would draw up such regulations as would drive undesirable medicines off the market British proprietors would be only too gratified. Mr. Glover urged everybody to be firm and definite in deciding, and not to withdraw one iota on the question of disclosing trade-secrets. The authorities knew exactly what class of articles they wished to strike, and he did not think they really intended to hit the whole of the legitimate trade. The question had arisen as to whether they should give a discretionary Board powers to call upon them for formulae, if necessary, the proprietors to have the right of appeal, or otherwise the article to be legally excluded. Mr. Glover thought this suggestion might be considered, as proprietors would know exactly what articles the authorities intended to deal with, and, of course, the makers would have power to appeal to the Board in case of dispute. (Applause.)

Mr. Glyn-Jones, who attended in his capacity of Secretary of the P.A.T.A., said that last year when this matter was before the Association they had to communicate with some 250 proprietors, with the object of ascertaining whether they would be willing, if necessary, to comply with regulations which would compel them to disclose their formulae, and whether they would prefer to cease doing business in certain Colonies where such regulations were in force. On that occasion every member of the Association (with the exception of two) said they were not in a position to disclose their formulas. The question had been raised as to whether or not such regulations would be *ultra vires*; but even if they were so there is nothing to prevent fresh legislation. It occurred to him that it might be as well to enlist the aid of proprietors of articles which are not medicines; for, although at the moment this is an attack on medicines, it is in reality an attack on proprietary rights also, and eventually might apply to, say, polishes and

creams, so that no harm would be done in enlisting the sympathy of any proprietary article or owner in this country. He further suggested that the Section should put their case before some responsible member of the Government, and, although it is one of grave difficulty, he did not suppose that any Home Government would be prepared to quarrel with the Commonwealth Parliament. The Government have a right to veto any legislation. The Board of Trade might be approached, but they may be told that it is entirely a Colonial matter. He did not think Lord Elgin would be sufficiently impressed with the importance of this question. No doubt it is true with some proprietary articles that when the formula is disclosed the name is also gone, but this would not apply to a great number of articles. They might submit proposals to give the Government Analyst the right to analyse their preparations, but it is open to anybody to analyse anything. There is a great deal of window-dressing about this legislation.

After further discussion, Mr. Fisher proposed and Mr. A. J. Brown seconded the following motion:

That steps be taken by deputation or otherwise to place the views of manufacturers before the President of the Board of Trade and Secretary of State for the Colonies as to the proposed regulations, in the hope that the home Government will protest against regulations which, if passed, will mean the disclosure of trade secrets hitherto protected and ultimately the abolition of trade in proprietary articles in Australia.

Mr. J. A. Kenningham (Condy & Mitchell) said this did not go far enough, and proposed that steps should be taken to lay before Captain Collins the various views of proprietors as to the means of getting rid of objectionable articles, which proposals would be transmitted to the Commonwealth Government, and, as the meeting seemed unanimous on the "declaration" point, the following motions, as well as the above, were submitted and agreed to:

That Captain Muirhead Collins (officer representing the Commonwealth in London) be asked to receive a deputation from the section.

That this section, in order to preserve the secret of manufacture of proprietary articles, suggests that the Commonwealth authorities should require all manufacturers to make a sworn declaration that their articles do not contain any of the drugs which may be scheduled as prohibited, or any ingredient or deleterious drug in quantities injurious to health, or to contain drugs, alcohol, etc., in excess of the quantities which the Commonwealth authorities may by regulation prescribe.

Mr. Glyn-Jones suggested that a circular-letter should be sent from the Chamber to some of the largest advertisers of proprietary articles other than medicines pointing out that an attack was being made on proprietary rights, and asking them to communicate with the Chamber if they were prepared to render assistance. This was agreed to, as was also a request that the resolutions should be sent to the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce and the representatives of Australian papers in London.

DUTIES ON PATENT-MEDICINE BOTTLES.

The Chairman, in referring to the new duties on bottles (see *C. & D.*, August 17, p. 303, and September 28, p. 509), said this is entirely a protective measure, and there is little or no chance of it being repealed. His firm, for instance, had already received cabled instructions to cancel certain small-packed articles, and this no doubt is the experience of others. It would appear that the new duty on bottled medicines had evoked a protest in Melbourne, and that "a deputation representing the interests of various overseas medicinal preparations waited on the Minister of Customs on August 15. This deputation pleaded that under the old tariff the value of medicine was included in the 15 per cent. duty, but under the new tariff there is a separate impost on the bottles, which hampered their business. The total duty on 100% worth of medicines is now about 17% 18s. The Minister of Customs, in reply, said the Government desired to secure that if possible Australian-made bottles should be used, and that in this instance he had adopted the recommendation of the Protectionist wing of the Tariff Commission. He would, however, give careful consideration to any representations put into writing."

The subject then dropped, and the meeting adjourned.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. Publication of letters does not imply our agreement with the arguments or approval of the statements therein. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects presumably of interest to our readers generally. Letters received after the early posts on Wednesday cannot as a rule be dealt with in the current week's issue.

BUSINESS INFORMATION.—We have very full records of the makers or agents for articles and products connected with the chemical and drug trades, and supply information respecting them by post to inquirers. Inquiries regarding any articles which cannot be traced in this manner are inserted under "Information Wanted."

The Japanese Pharmacopœia.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of July 30 last, I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to inform you that a telegram has been received from his Majesty's Ambassador at Tokio stating that the translation of the new Japanese Pharmacopœia has now been published, and that copies would be sent to this Office on October 3.

I am, Sir, your most obedient, humble Servant,
Foreign Office, October 4. F. A. CAMPBELL.

A New Field for Pharmacy.

SIR,—The inception of the Royal Society of Medicine suggests to me that pharmacy should seize the opportunity and follow in its wake. It is not so much that I should desire to see a Royal Society of Pharmacy founded as that I think that pharmacists should endeavour to "specialise" so as to assist in the various sections. We all know that this is the day of specialists, and we also know that the specialists do not work together so as to make the best of their knowledge. There is much in the scientific branches of pharmacy which is practically sterile so far as regards doing good to the sick, because physicians are not much acquainted with the results of research, or how to apply them, and there is much that is lame and halting in the application of pathological truths to practical medicine for the want of a better system of therapeutics. My view is that chemists should follow up, say, the laryngological section with practical researches into the action of remedies for the throat and nose, the balneological with medications for baths and vapours, the obstetrical with formulae for pessaries, douches, and so forth, the otological with information about the qualities of remedies used for the ear, etc., and so forth for all the various sections.

Yours truly,

Dublin, October 2. J. C. MCWALTER.

American Chemistry.

SIR,—We recently read of some remarkable results achieved with a compound hyoscine-morphine injection, which is stated to have great advantage over the old-fashioned scopolamine-morphine injection! In addition, this compound contains "cactin." We assume an alkaloid is intended, although the final "e" is absent. According to the "United States Dispensatory," nineteenth edition, page 1424, Mr. F. W. Sultan "believed that he had found in *Cactus grandiflorus* an alkaloid cactine, but the existence of this alkaloid is extremely doubtful." We also notice a "Calcidin—pure calcium iodized. Do not confound with calcium iodide." This sort of thing is not good enough for British chemists, but appears to satisfy medical men. How long is it to last?

Yours very truly,
ANTI-QUACK. (243/6.)

Patent Fees.

SIR,—With reference to the article on "The New Patents and Designs Act," on p. 476 of No. 1,443 of your esteemed journal, may I venture, for the peace of mind of those of your readers who are interested in patents, to point out that the statement that the new Act introduces an increase of

fees is based on a misapprehension? The Act in question, as you are aware, is a consolidation of the Act of 1883 with all subsequent patent legislation, including the recent Amendment Act; and the schedule of fees referred to is merely a reprint of the old schedule of maximum fees appended to the Act of 1883, with the insertion of the additional fee of 1*l.* on sealing provided for by the Act of 1902. Section 65 of the New Act confers on the Board of Trade power to determine the actual fees payable as at present; and there is no reason to suppose that any increase in fees is at present contemplated.

Faithfully yours,

60 Doughty Street, W.C.

S. F. PAUL.

[Mr. Barker referred to the patent fees actually in force, the fees in the new Act being greater, but these, we find, are the same as in the 1883 Act. There is, therefore, no change in the maximum fees.—EDITOR.]

Mr. Boot and the Pharmaceutical Council.

SIR,—The President of the Pharmaceutical Society asserted that no animus against us was shown in the summons the Council lately served upon us with respect to the sale of Easton's tabloids. I freely grant that they had no other course open to them after the Coroner's remarks on the case out of which it arose. We have, however, a complete vindication of our subsequent action, which we would not have taken except for their unhandsome (not to say dishonest) attempt to discredit us with the Magistrate and the public by traversing our defence—viz., that we were following a custom into which the trade had drifted. It was open to the Council to urge that the statute had been broken, and that for the sake of checking any laxity in the trade generally a summons was necessary, but that the action was the first of the kind, and a moderate penalty would serve to warn offenders. It was, however, apparently too good an opportunity to pillory us, even at the expense of the truth, and so we find their counsel saying the Society could not for a moment allow that it was the custom of the trade to contravene the Act. As to this, not only from Mr. Robinson, but from another shop controlled by one who up to a recent date was a member of the Council, we obtained the same tabloids without any inquiry, entry in poison-book, or address-label. A third purchase was made from a present member of the Council, and the following remark was passed: "I must ask you to sign for it; it's a new law, and it's a d—d nuisance." The defendant to our summons was a gentleman who has never had any delicate scruples about attacking our position in the trade. Mr. R. A. Robinson thinks all are "Trade pirates" who work for J. B. We are "fully qualified" to take the measure of gentlemen who talk glibly about the responsibility of chemists, and at the same time vituperate those who equally feel their responsibilities and endeavour to do their duty to the public equally well.

Yours, etc.,

Nottingham.

JESSE BOOT.

Head Ointments.

SIR,—The cases reported on p. 536, col. 1, of the current number of the *C. & D.* are puzzling and disquieting. In country and working-class districts (unhappily) large quantities of Harrison's Nursery Pomade and other "veratria vermicides" are sold—in many cases by small grocers, etc. No doubt the general idea is that such semi-toilet preparations are on all fours with the hairdresser's "cantharidine hair stimulant" or pomade. Again, these pomades are very frequently sent by post to villages and out-of-the-way places. Is it possible that the loophole which frees this "Alkaloid: poisonous vegetable and salts" (Part 1) from the operation of Section 17 is that it is in some sense a "preparation"?

Yours truly,

RUSTICS. (249/28.)

The Thistle.

We have received from Dr. George Coull, of Edinburgh, a copy of a letter which he has addressed to Mr. J. Rymer Young, President of the Pharmaceutical Society, acknowledging that it was he who sent the thistles last week. Dr. Coull appointed himself a committee of one for the purpose, and he disclaims, in his own quaintly humorous manner, having the remotest idea of insulting the President and his colleagues with "botanical specimens":

The sole idea animating me was in symbolic language and at the same time in a spirit of jocularity to emphasise the

fact that (speaking for Scotland as a *self-appointed* committee of one) we are in earnest in our opposition to certain of the proposed new by-laws, and that we are not going to be "injured with impunity" as we consider we shall be if these are sanctioned. I don't think I could have conveyed my little lesson in a more effective manner than I evidently did by sending those very fine specimens of our national emblem, and by enclosing with them the proud motto of the "Order of the Thistle"—*Nemo me impune lacessit*. If I am correctly informed, the Councillors saw the humour of the thing as I trust you yourself, sir, did; and they also took to heart the lesson meant to be facetiously applied. There has been so much talk recently about a certain self-appointed committee that I may make open confession that in the matter of the sending of Scotia's emblem I took counsel with no one.

Edinburgh v Glasgow.

SIR,—Mr. W. B. Cowie and those whom he seems to represent have evolved infinitely more from my harmless necessary postcard than was ever involved in it. This is the simple story of its genesis and publication. At the request of several of its members an *ad hoc* meeting of the Council of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Association was held on August 29 (mark the date) to consider whether any action should be taken with reference to the reported promotion in Edinburgh of a memorial to the Privy Council against the confirmation of sub-sections 10-11 of Section X. of the Pharmaceutical Society's proposed new by-laws. It having been explained to the Councillors present (all of whom are members of the Society) that the question was one primarily and principally affecting members and students of that Society, the sub-sections in dispute were read, and after a long discussion of the *pros* and *cons* of the issues, it was unanimously resolved that the Council *qua* Council should support the application of the Pharmaceutical Council to the Privy Council for ratification of the new by-laws, and Messrs. J. P. Gilmour and W. L. Currie were appointed to act in that behalf. I was absent on holiday from September 5 to September 17, and upon my return found amongst a mass of papers which had been inadvertently set aside as advertising matter a long letter from an Edinburgh correspondent, in reply to one of mine propounding my reasons for siding with the Pharmaceutical Council's by-laws proposals. There was not the faintest indication anywhere in this letter that it was written by a member of the Memorial Committee or on its behalf. On the contrary, it bore all the internal evidences of being a private communication, intended for my personal edification, and was treated by me accordingly. I at once acknowledged receipt of it, explaining the cause of the delay in doing so, and deferred a detailed rejoinder until I should have more leisure.

On September 24 I learned casually that Messrs. Dott and Cowie had been in Glasgow canvassing for signatures to the memorial, and having consulted my colleague, it was decided to issue the circular postcard, the publication of which in the trade journals was rendered necessary by the incompleteness of our list of members of the Pharmaceutical Society in Glasgow and its district. This was done, not by way of reprisal for any supposed slight upon the local Association, but simply and solely in fulfilment of the duty imposed upon us by our Council. Here endeth the official commission and lesson of this epistle.

And now, speaking for myself, if Mr. Cowie has fallen into incomprehensible misapprehension in affirming that I agree with the organisers of the memorial in desiring to maintain the status of the Examiners as provided for in existing by-laws, so far is this from being true that I have repeatedly, in correspondence with Edinburgh pharmacists whom I now know to be members of the Memorial Committee, declared in the most unequivocal terms that I hold the proposed alterations as they affect the acceptance of certificates of proficiency in general education, and the claim of the Council to exercise effective control over the standard and scope of the examinations, as eminently just and reasonable. Finally, I represent many members of the Pharmaceutical Society in Glasgow and the West of Scotland in expressing profound regret that influential *confères* in the East and North-East of Scotland, with the exemplary exception of Aberdeen, should have initiated a movement essentially divisive in principle and disruptive in tendency. This in itself was grievous

enough, but is an additional aggravation of the signal error of judgment that the movement should have been so ordered as practically to preclude any adequate opportunity for frank discussion of the merits of the case. Even otherwise well-informed members of the Pharmaceutical Society were uninstructed or indifferent in this respect, while the mass of non-members, qualified and unqualified, to whom the Memorial Committee resorted were certainly crassly ignorant of the real issues involved, and invariably bitterly hostile to the Society, and therefore rife to do it a wanton mischief. The burden of our grievance in these parts is less that the local Association was cavalierly dealt with than that a serious injustice has been done to those principles and interest of free discussion and fair play for which some of us still cherish an old-fashioned prejudice. That this grievance is not imaginary is attested by the fact that I have received admissions from a number of signatories to the memorial that if they had had fuller information, and had not been assured by the convassers that the Council of the local Association were assuming a neutral attitude in the matter, they would not have signed it.

J. P. GILMOUR.

Glasgow, October 9.

Blue Coupons.

SIR,—As the above system of advertising is at present being largely boomed in Glasgow, may I be allowed through the medium of your journal to point out to the trade in the West of Scotland that the giving of blue coupons on articles on the Protected List of the P.A.T.A. is contrary to the rules of that Association? In any case, therefore, where a chemist has adopted this scheme, care should be taken to see that P.A.T.A. articles are excluded.

Yours faithfully,

A. McMILLAN,

Hon. Gen. Sec. Glasgow and West of Scotland Chemists' Association.

Sale of Poisons.

SIR,—I am very interested in your interpretation of the law, in which you state that it is illegal to supply orders for poisons sent by post. How can we legally execute an order for a regular customer if sent by post? Are we breaking the law if a messenger—say, a gentleman's servant—signs the poisons-book? Orders for poisons are sent through other tradesmen; if he (the tradesman) signs our book, are we justified in selling the poison, charging the sum to our customer? Also, we are often informed by our customers that they buy their "weed-killer" direct from the maker. If the weed-killer contains arsenic, can the makers supply direct to customers all over the country, obviously without a signature in the poison-book?

Yours truly,

A LAW KEEPER. (246/33.)

SIR,—"Jay Mack" is more than indignant, he is getting excited. It may interest your correspondent and others to know that my first letter was sent off after reading the result of the Westminster case, and that I saw no necessity to alter anything I had written, nor do I now. Your correspondent's statement "Little use telling us that companies do not observe poison regulations" reminds me of the child who, caught in some disobedient act, yells, "I'm not naughty." "Jay Mack's" retort is just about as sensible. If an offence had been committed, the regulations had not been observed, and if "Jay Mack" waits for a plainer fact than that to argue on he will wait a very long time. The charge made against me in the first sentence referring to my letter is absolutely unjust. The statement I quoted was taken word for word from "Jay Mack's" letter, and his insinuation shows either that he is afflicted with an extremely convenient memory or else that he is only too willing to shuffle out of a position he finds untenable. Another statement I would like to criticise. If the "sale of poisons never was worth time as a profit-bearing transaction," why make all this fuss about it? Why not delete it from businesses where it does not pay, and leave it to those men who can make a profit out of it? The fact is—and "Jay Mack" must know it—the man who attempted to drop the sale of poisons would lose caste with the public, and the fact that, with few exceptions, a chemist alone is allowed to sell poisons gives him the prestige the unqualified man covets. As in my former

letter, I am still seeking information. "It is estimated that nine-tenths of the dispensing of England and Wales is done by doctors themselves." Really! But whose is the estimate, and what proportion is done by charitable institutions and friendly societies? Perhaps "Jay Mack" will enlighten me, or perhaps he will serve these as he did my other inconvenient questions—ignore them.

E. BEE. (250/30.)

Dispensing Notes.

Alkaloidal Mixtures.

SIR,—What takes place in the following mixture?

Ac. hydrobrom. dil. ...	...	...	5iij.
Quin. sulph. ...	...	...	gr. xxx.
Liq. hyd. perch. ...	...	...	5iij.
Liq. strychn. ...	...	...	℥xxiv.
Aq. ad ...	...	...	3vj.

On the addition of the liq. hyd. perch. a precipitate forms which at once redissolves; but upon standing twenty-four hours, a granular precipitate forms. It is not a heavy precipitate.

D. G. (237/61.)

T. C. M. (Cape Colony) (238/62) also wants to know what is the deposit in the following:

Antipyrin. ...	...	...	5j.
Sod. salicylat. ...	...	...	5ij.
Quin. hydrochlor. ...	...	...	gr. viij.
Spt. vin. rect. ...	...	...	5vj.
Liq. ammon. acet. ...	...	...	5iv.
Vin. ipecac. ...	...	...	5iv.
Spt. æth. nit. ...	...	...	5vj.
Aq. ad ...	...	...	5iv.

Legal Queries.

See the "C. & D. Diary, 1907," for much legal information as to all trade matters. In any circumstance not covered by the articles therein, state the case explicitly with all particulars and submit to the Editor.

Syrca (237/63).—The dispensing of the liquid barkola compound with the other ingredients in the published prescription exempts the resulting mixture from medicine stamp duty. The Board of Inland Revenue only require dutiable medicines dispensed *per se* to be stamped.

Root Lifter (238/1).—The liability of the father for the goods ordered by his fifteen-year-old son entirely depends upon how you have been in the habit of receiving orders from the father. You must be able to prove the express authority of the father before you can recover from him.

G. F. (164/26).—Carbolie jelly is not a scheduled poison. If the poisons schedule said that solutions of more than 3 per cent. of the acid are poison, it might be argued that the jelly is included, but the schedule says "liquid preparations."

Capsicum (239/57).—Our authority for the statement is the practice of the Pharmaceutical Council and chemical fact.

Gentian (242/16).—When aspirin is ordered in a prescription the chemist should dispense the proprietary form of acetyl-salicylic acid, and not another make of the acid.

Nit Ointment (219/58).—White hellebore is not a scheduled poison, nor do preparations containing it come within the provisions of the Pharmacy Act.

Secundo Curo (249/39).—The use of the name "Dr. Brown's" with a known, admitted, and approved remedy takes the medicine out of the exemption until you are able to satisfy the Board of Inland Revenue that this does not constitute a claim to exclusive right to prepare the lozenges. The Board is not at all likely to agree that there is no such claim.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months. A preliminary condition for reporting on samples submitted is that all particulars as to source and uses are given to us.

W. J. F. (238/64).—TENNIS-RACQUET GUT-PRESERVER.—Refer to the information given by a subscriber in the *C. & D.*, April 20, p. 601. With the data there given you will have no difficulty in making a gut-preservative like your sample.

Borax (241/2).—(1) You require the authority of the Board of Inland Revenue to use methylated spirit in making Leeming's essence. (2) Cracking of the coating of pills has little injurious effect upon them, unless they are oxidisable, which is the case with Bland's pills. (3) Pearl barley is hordeum, decortiatum B.P. 1884.

D. D. (244/24).—The OINTMENT appears to consist of ung. ac. carbol., ung. ac. borice., and lanoline, but you do not give any information as to its uses.

J. R. (245/50).—POWDER FOR WORMS ON LAWNS.—It is not satisfactory from an analytical point of view—the basis being apparently garden-mould—but we think the active ingredient present is alum. Our correspondent states that the powder is spread on the lawn or bowling-green and then sprinkled with water.

J. G. J. (247/62).—BELTING CEMENTS.—We cannot carry the matter much farther than you have done, but we think that sample A. is largely composed of oxidised linseed oil, such as is used in the manufacture of linoleum. We have also heard of a belting cement consisting of tragacanth and castor oil. The second sample, consisting of potassium bichromate, acetic acid, and glue, should become insoluble on exposure to light.

H. B. R. (238/68).—EFFECT OF PETROLEUM JELLY ON RUBBER. In common with organic oils, mineral oils and jellies all tend to deteriorate indiarubber. This is due to the softening effect of the fatty compounds on the rubber, which renders it more liable to oxidation. As the action is slow in the case of vaseline lubricated washers, the deteriorating effect is avoided by frequent renewals of the washers.

G. H. W. (Trinidad) (232/12).—We require some information about samples before we can judge whether they are likely to yield results of general interest. We do not undertake general analyses.

F. W. W. (236/6).—The COAL-SAVER is salt coloured with indigo. We have often asked for the evidence that it is economical to use these preparations or that smoking is prevented and heat increased, but have not been able to obtain the information.

Country Chemist (238/23).—(1) RAT POISON free from scheduled poison.—Barium carbonate is a cheap and effective poison for rats, and, although slow, it is reasonably sure. It is mixed in the proportion of 1 part of barium carbonate and 4 parts of oatmeal, and when required for use is made into a stiff dough with water. The paste thus produced is put near the runs, or the powder may be spread on bread and butter or moistened toast.

(2) CORN APPLICATION without cannabis indica:

Acid. salicylic. ...	...	...	5j.
Resin. commun. ...	...	...	5j.
Æther. meth. ...	...	...	5j.

Mix. This liquid is used in the same way as the ordinary collodion paints.

J. S. (238/25).—FLY-PAPERS.—The method of making sticky fly-papers was explained in an article in the *C. & D.*, July 28, 1906, p. 191, and is also dealt with in "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

Medcalf (244/20).—We cannot undertake to analyse the samples of blacking you send. Information on the subject of blackings can be obtained by consulting the indexes of past volumes or "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

E. B. (239/67).—(1) The precipitate in the neuralgia-mixture cannot be completely avoided. The addition of 5 per cent. of glycerin prevents it to some extent, but the best course is to set it aside to clear, then decant most of it, and filter the "foots." (2) INFLUENZA-MIXTURE.—There is little eucalyptus oil in your sample—in fact, it only contains as much as the water will dissolve. Make *eucalyptus-water* by putting ol. eucalypti 5ij. in a 2-gal. jar, and pour upon it 1 gal. of boiling water. Shake, and after cooling filter through a wet filter paper. Use this in the following:

Quinine sulph. ...	...	...	5ss.
Acid. sulph. aromat. ...	...	...	5ij.
Tr. cinnamomi ...	...	...	5ss.
Spt. chloroformi ...	...	...	5ss.
Glycerini ...	...	...	5iij.
Aq. eucalypti ad ...	...	...	3xl.

5ss. pro dose.

B. H. K. (244/62).—(1) DRINK-CURE.—We have examined the drink-cure you mention several times, and have concluded that it consists of potassium bromide and Rochelle salt. The dose of the former in each powder is about 1 grain. (2) Is the roap-powder used as an inhalation? You should give us all the particulars you possess.